Ping linked to Chinoy trader's disappearance

STORY ON PAGE A2

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

website: www.inquirer.net

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

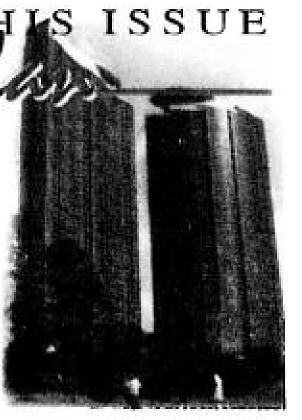
FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2001 ★★ 76 PAGES 7 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 91 ₱15

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **Orly linked to P16-M K-9 deal** NEWS / A2
- **Angara belittles SWS survey** NEWS / A4
- **SMC to buy Pure Foods** BUSINESS / B1
- **Another quake rocks Baguio** ACROSS / A14

WITH THIS ISSUE

All about élan



Special Issue

PACIFIC PLAZA TOWERS OPENS ITS DOORS

Now, it's failed asylum bid

Cop rescued but rains spoil happy ending

NENITA Martin talks with Sen. Loren Legarda on her cell phone anticipating a happy reunion. RANDY HORMILLOSA

Joy turns to grief for Nenita

BY DELFIN T. MALLARI JR.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LUCENA CITY—At around 8 a.m. yesterday, Nenita Martin was good-naturedly parrying jokes about how she and her husband, Chief Insp. Abelardo "Abe" Martin, would spend their first moments of reunion.

The banter was naughty inside the quarters of Maj. Gen. Jose Lachica, chief of the Armed Forces' Joint Task Force for Southern Luzon at Camp Guillermo Nakar.

"If Abe embraces me, that's OK. Why would I deny that? *Mahirap naman ang magyabang* (I can't very well be arrogant)," Nenita, 49, told the group made up of her mother-in-law Corazon; Olylyn, wife of her only son Allan, who died of leu-

JOY/ A16

Martin dies of blood loss aboard banca to Infanta

BY DELFIN T. MALLARI JR.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LUCENA CITY—Chief Insp. Abelardo Martin, a captive of communist rebels since 1999, was recovered yesterday by government troops but died of blood loss as he was being transported to this city.

Martin, 52, could have arrived alive had bad weather not prevented government choppers from collecting him at the scene of a clash between soldiers and New People's Army rebels.

Members of the 8th Scout Ranger Company recovered the wounded Martin, a former police chief of Dolores, Quezon, at 12:30 a.m. yesterday. He died on board a banca on the way to Infanta at about 9 a.m.

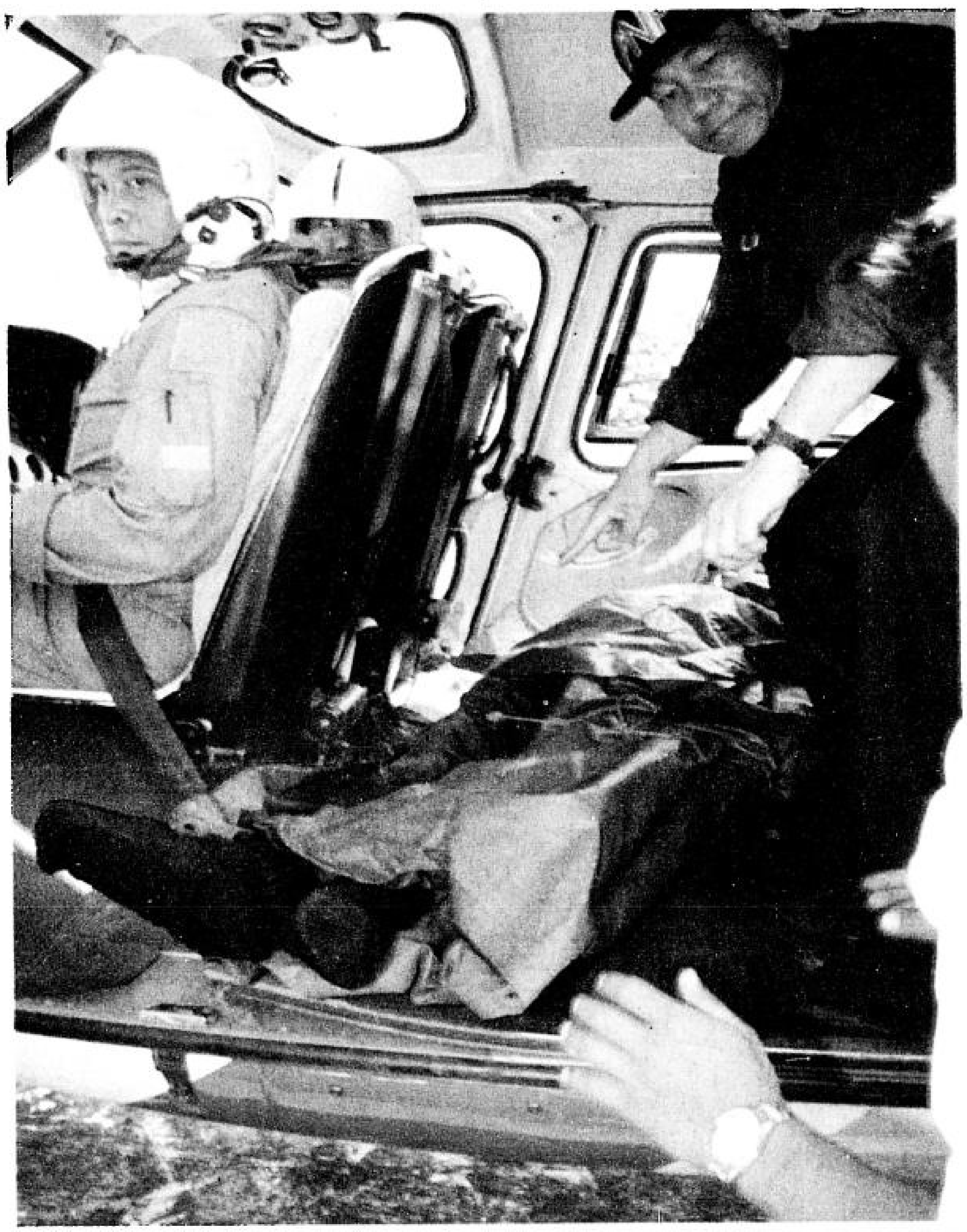
"It was a chance encounter (between soldiers and rebels). It was not a rescue operation," Maj. Gen. Jose Lachica, head of the Armed Forces' Joint Task Force for Southern Luzon (JTFSL), told the INQUIRER.

In Malacañang, President Macapagal-Arroyo announced at a hastily called press briefing a suspension of hostilities (Somo) in key areas in Southern Tagalog.

"(Martin's death) is doubly tragic because I had been informed before the incident that the leadership of the National Democratic Front had expressed readiness to (release him) and the other hostage, Maj. Noel Buan, to the government," she said in prepared statement.

She said Martin "made a su-

COP/ A16



A POLICE helicopter brings the body of Chief Insp. Abelardo Martin to Camp Nakar in Lucena City. Chief Supt. Tom Lantion directed the operation. DENNIS SABANGAN

Thai daily: Bangkok rejected Erap plea

BY ROCKY NAZARENO

ALARMED by a report that Joseph Estrada recently applied for political asylum in Thailand, the United States, Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei through embassies in Manila, the Philippine government yesterday warned friendly nations that granting refuge to the ousted president would be deemed an "unfriendly act."

The Nation newspaper in Thailand yesterday quoted an unidentified Thai government source as saying that Estrada "made a personal call to the Thai ambassador in Manila last week urging Thailand to grant him political asylum."

"The answer we gave was an absolute no," the source told the daily, adding that similar requests had been made to the other governments through their embassies.

But Thailand, Malaysia and the United States said they had received no such request.

"There hasn't been any formal request from the Philippines," Thai Foreign Minister Surakiart Sathirathai told reporters after talks with his Malaysian counterpart Syed Hamid Albar.

"We have no such news," Syed Hamid said. "We are not a country for asylum."

US Embassy spokesperson Thomas Skipper said "there has been no request and the US has made no offer for former President Estrada to go the United States."

In Manila, a close friend of Estrada's issued a flat denial on his behalf, saying the disgraced leader "has never talked" to Thai Ambassador to Manila Ravee Hongsaprabhas, except to exchange pleasantries at diplomatic functions during his presidency.

NOW/ A16

NPC wants to replace Namfrel as poll watchdog

BY JERRY ESPLANADA
(First of two parts)

SPECIAL REPORT

THE NATIONAL Press Club (NPC) is embarking on what a lifetime member calls an "ambitious but crazy mission."

It wants to dislodge the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) as poll watchdog, a cause the 300,000-strong group has championed since the 1984 Batasang Pambansa elections.

In late October, Namfrel asked the Commission on Elections (Comelec) to declare the group the poll body's citizens' arm in the May 14 elections.

Last month, the 50-year-old NPC, which calls itself a "bastion of press freedom" and "citadel of democracy," sprang a surprise by filing its own petition.

In the petition, signed by NPC president Antonio Antonio and acting secretary Delfin Perez, the press club also wanted to be accredited as organizer, manager and operator of the May polls' unofficial count.

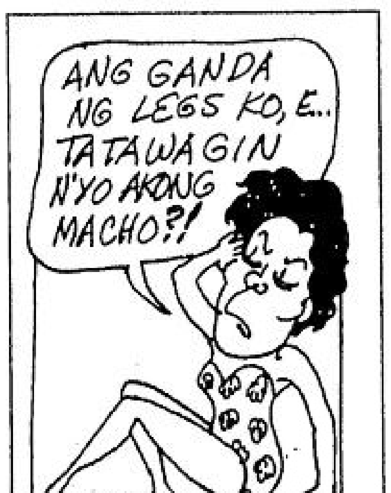
The NPC board had earlier designated Perez as point man for its proposed "Operation Quick Count."

Antonio is the provincial news editor of the Manila Bulletin while Perez is assistant business editor of the newspaper.

Perez said they were "ready to spearhead a nationwide quick count."

The Comelec will benefit from the NPC because the poll body "is given the unique chance of having access to radio, television and print at any time of the day to inform the public as events unfold," the press

NPC/ A7



ANG GANDA NG LEGS KO, E.. TATAWAGIN N'YO AKONG MACHO?!

Militants twit 'trapo machos'

BY ANDREA T. ECHAVEZ
AND JEROME ANING

A MILITANT group yesterday lumped Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago together with six other supposedly "trapo-machos"—gender jargon for macho traditional politicians—on International Women's Day.

The left-wing group

MILITANTS/ A16

NBI summons top Ping aides on Dacer case

BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC
AND MALOU GUANZON-APALISOK
PDI Visayas Bureau

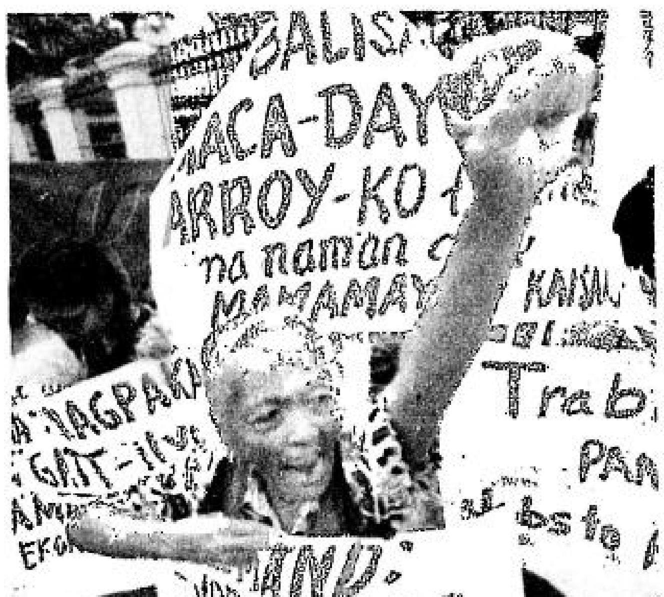
THE NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation yesterday subpoenaed two former ranking officials of the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force (PAOCTF) in connection with the abduction of public relations practitioner Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and his driver last November.

The NBI said the two were subordinates of former Philippine National Police Chief Panfilo Lacson, now an opposition senatorial candidate.

The two will have to present themselves before officials of the NBI National Capital Region (NCR), who are investigating Dacer's abduction, if they want to clear their names.

NBI-NCR chief Samuel Ong said NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco would reveal the identities of the former PAOCTF officials in a press conference today.

NBI/ A16



FEISTY 70-year-old 'lola' raises clinched fist during a lightning rally by militant women at Malacañang Palace. EDWIN BACASMAS

GMA: 'Woman power' very much alive in my gov't

Gloria braves boos in Tondo

BY DONNA S. CUETO

ON INTERNATIONAL Women's Day, President Macapagal-Arroyo went around Metro Manila, proclaiming that "woman power" was very much alive in her administration.

The President boasted that at no time in the country's history have so many women been placed in positions of power, even as she vowed to further widen the scope of power for women by putting female achievers in crucial positions of decision-making.

Ms Macapagal started her day with a dialogue with women's groups at the Department of Education, Culture and Sports and at the Ultra in Pasig City. Then she visited the Department of Social Welfare and Development Sanctuary and the Correctional Institute for Women, both in Mandaluyong City.

Last stop was an inspection of the Waste Recovery Project in Smokey Mountain in Tondo where she was booed by some pro-Estrada residents.

GMA/ A5

NAKU... MATINDI ITO!

Lacson linked to trader's kidnap

By Carlito Pablo

THE DISAPPEARANCE of yet another Chinese-Filipino businessman has been linked to former national police chief Panfilo Lacson and several subordinates.

Mary Ong, popularly known as "Rosebud" and "Mata Hari" because of her police exploits, said yesterday Lacson and his men were behind the disappearance of Angelito M. Sy, president of World Balance Philippines, on May 12, 2000.

The woman undercover agent, who last year exposed the alleged involvement of Lacson and other top police officials in drug trafficking and the kidnap-slay of several Chinese businessmen, said Sy had been invited to a meeting by Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force officials when he disappeared.

Lacson headed the PAOCTF in concurrent capacity before he resigned in January after Joseph Estrada was ousted from the presidency.

Ong, a former PAOCTF agent herself, said Sy, 37, was helping the Philippine National Police Narcotics Group at the time as a translator.

Ong is under the protection of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines after she filed charges in January against Lacson and 12 subordinates for drug trafficking and kidnap-for-ransom and murder.

Yesterday, Ong showed defense reporters at Camp Aguinaldo a photocopy of Sy's Narcgroup ID card identifying him as a "consultant," sworn statements by members of his family and forms filled out by his lawyer at PAOCTF after his disappearance.

Ong said the Sy family is set to file a formal complaint today against Lacson and his men before the National Bureau of Investigation.

Ong said that a few days before Sy disappeared, he told his mother about a telephone conversation he had with someone from Hong Kong regarding a shipment of methamphetamine hydrochloride (shabu) to the Philippines.

Ong said Sy had learned that the drugs were to be delivered allegedly to Senior Supt. Michael Ray Aquino, then chief for operations of PAOCTF.

Sy reportedly later called up someone named Kim and told him: "Hey, I heard there's a shipment for your group and Michael Ray."

The day before he disappeared, Sy allegedly received several phone calls from Chief Insp. Cesar Tannagan of PAOCTF, who asked for a meeting in behalf of Lacson and Aquino at SM North Edsa mall in Quezon City the next day at 3:30 p.m.

Tannagan, according to Sy's mother, admitted he had called Sy at least 15 times because Aquino needed a Chinese translator.

Sy went to SM North Edsa together with his wife, Jenus. Tannagan reportedly met them at Shakey's pizza parlor and told Sy's wife that he was just going to "borrow" her husband.

Ong said Sy was never heard from again. When his family went to PAOCTF headquarters, they were given the run-around by Tannagan and Aquino, they said.

The Sy family said they also tried to get help from anti-crime crusader Teresita Ang-See, but she scolded Sy's mother, Ong Sui Lee, for making accusations against Lacson and Aquino, her *kumpadre* (co-godparent) and godson, respectively.

Lacson is running for senator under the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino, which is allied with the political party of Estrada.

At press time, he was on the campaign trail in Cebu and had not replied to Ong's latest charge.

"I don't care if they link this with the elections," Ong said. "We cannot allow (Lacson) to become a senator and (later) president. He will be worse than Estrada."

Mercado, Reyes face raps in ₱16-M dog deal

By Michael Lim Ubac, Cynthia Balana and Carlito Pablo

THE ASSOCIATION of Civilian Employees in the Department of National Defense has charged former defense secretary Orlando Mercado and outgoing Armed Forces Chief of Staff Angelo Reyes with benefiting from the purchase of "overpriced" eight K-9 breed dogs on Jan. 10.

In a complaint lodged with the Ombudsman, Acend representative Teofilo Sison said Mercado and Reyes, along with defense undersecretaries Edgardo Batenga and Esteban Conejos acquired the bomb-sniffing dogs at a cost P2 million each.

This, he said, "is shocking to the conscience of every public servant—that a dog can cost P2 million."

Sison filed the complaint late February, but details were divulged only yesterday after Ombudsman Aniano Desierto ordered a formal investigation on the case.

Mercado and Reyes separately denied any wrongdoing.

"We know that there have been efforts to dig up anything since I resigned in protest of (Lisandro) Abadia's appointment (as national security adviser)," Mercado told the INQUIRER.

Justified

Speaking from Bacolod City, Mercado said that the purchase of military dogs by the Armed Forces of the Philippines was endorsed and justified by Reyes.

As then chief of the Department of National Defense, he said, he merely signed the recommendation for the purchase of the dogs after it passed through several channels for approval. The dogs were deployed to Mindanao in support of the counter-insurgency campaign.

On the allegation of overpricing, Mercado said he himself pointed this out to Reyes by citing the discrepancy in the prices of the AFP and the Presidential Security Group which acquired 20 K-9 dogs from Alabama in 1996 but at a much cheaper price.

"It was justified by the AFP later on because of the need at that time," Mercado said.

Not bothered

Mercado said he was not bothered by any charges hurled against him since this was normal during election period.

Besides, he added, it was purely an AFP transaction and the DND had nothing to do with the purchase.

Reyes for his part said that the questioned contract was clean and bereft of any irregularity.

"We believe the contract is aboveboard and can withstand scrutiny," Reyes told the INQUIRER.

He said, "As far as I can remember, the contract went through the appropriate channel and procurement procedures and was approved by the Office of the Defense Secretary."

Reyes did not give further details other than to say that the canines were needed by the military to help in the campaign against terrorist bombings and drug smuggling.

In the three-page complaint, Sison said even the purchase of the K-9 dogs was illegal as it was done without the benefit of a public bidding.

He said the dogs were procured from S.H. K-9 Warriors Academy "despite the fact that the market, domestic or abroad, have several suppliers."

Sison disclosed that the transaction cost P16.7 million—P16 million for the eight dogs and P700,000 for assorted equipment.

Due to the gravity of the charges, Deputy Ombudsman for the Military Orlando Casimiro recommended an automatic preliminary investigation on the allegations.

"The complaint is under oath and the evidence presented is complete so the Ombudsman will proceed to formal investigation," said Casimiro in an interview.

Casimiro said he had already assigned the case to two Ombudsman teams, which are expected to order Mercado, Reyes, Batenga and Esteban to answer the charges in 10 days.

Probe housing scam, Gloria told

THE CHAIR of the Senate committee on housing, urban planning and development yesterday urged President Macapagal-Arroyo to look into a P13.5 billion scam in the housing sector.

Sen. Rodolfo Biazon said there were 75,000 housing units all over the country which have already been paid for by government funds but remained idle for at least five years now.

He said various government financing agencies like the Social Security System, Government Service Insurance System, Pag-Ibig, National Housing Authority and the National Home Mortgage Financing Corp. have paid billions representing loans of their members to private housing developers.

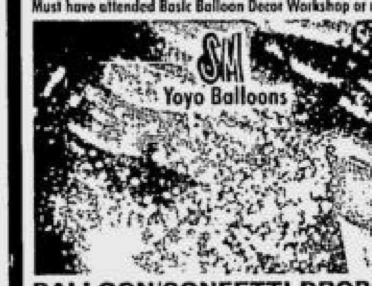
Biazon said the housing units were unoccupied chiefly because of a scam involving ghost buyers employed by the housing developers. He said the units were also substandard or unaffordable.

Biazon said a prominent real estate developer, whom he declined to name, was responsible for the biggest number of unoccupied units.

The senator called housing officials to a consultation hearing yesterday on issues affecting the government's housing program, including the unoccupied units.

"I asked for an accurate accounting of these units and what should be done about these because these represent P13.5 billion funds that are sleeping," Biazon said.

Biazon said the President has so far not enunciated yet what her housing policy would be.



Cut this Ad worth 1 Bag U.S. Asstd. Balloons

BALLOON BUSINESS!

BALLOON INDUSTRY CONTINUES TO GROW -- DO YOU?

Join YoYo BALLOONS in our ADVANCED BALLOON ARTS/CRAFTS & DECOR WORKSHOP (Hands-On) (Conducted by U.S. Trained Balloon Experts & Staff of YoYo Balloons)

REQUIREMENT:
Must have attended Basic Balloon Decor Workshop or must have at least 2 to 3 yrs. balloon decor experience.

Date : April 6 & 7, 2001 (Friday & Saturday)
Venue : 5/Flr. Function Room B, Megatrade Hall, Bldg. B SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City

ENROLMENT FEE: P 5,000 PER CLASS (WALK-IN: P 5,500/CLASS) With FREE materials/balloons worth up to P 2,000 for each participant per class

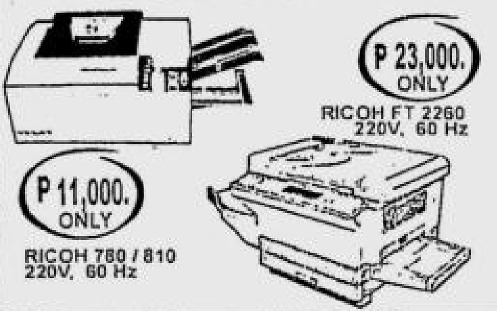
ENROLL IN ALL (6) SIX CLASSES AND PAY ONLY P 20,000 Plus Get The Chance To WIN (1) Electric Pump (Switzerland), Big Pumps and Balloons worth up to P 10,000 (BANK TO BANK PAYMENT ACCEPTED)

Pre-enrolment ongoing at Yoyo Balloons Outlets:
SM Megamall-Basement, Bldg. A
SM Manila-UGF near Jollibee
SM Fairview-Basement near FoodCourt
SM Southmall-GF near Supermarket
SM Centerpoint -2nd Floor
Sta.Lucia East Grand Mall-Ground Floor
10-D Xavierville Ave., Loyola Hts., Q.C
Tels.922-5543; 426-2973; 920-1440
Fax: 922-0068

BALLOON/CONFETTI DROPS
APRIL 6 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
BIG BALLOON ARRANGEMENTS
APRIL 6 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
HOT AIR BALLOONS
APRIL 6 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
WEDDING EXHIBIT
APRIL 7 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
BALLOON SCULPTURES
APRIL 7 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
BALLOON CANOPY CREATION
APRIL 7 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

NOTE: Subject to change without prior notice. Present this ad before the start of each class for FREE 1 BAG U.S. STANDARD BALLOONS(ONE AD PER PARTICIPANT)

FREE CONSULTATION AFTER APRIL 7, 2001 FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY



BESTSELLING
RICOH COPIERS

KATUN COMPATIBLE
NOW AVAILABLE
TONERS & PARTS
Canon, Sharp, Toshiba, Mita, Etc.
100% GUARANTEED

COPYTRADE®
Copytrade Bldg. 550 M Jhocson St. Sampaloc Manila
Tels. 749-8155 to 56 • 781-3472 • 749-8216
Prov'l Dealers Cabanatuan 463-3415 • Cebu 253-2402 • Baliuag (0919)837-1080 • Tarlac (0919)847-6569
E-mail copytrade.com@pacific.net.ph

GO WITH THE NAME YOU KNOW!

Study at
VERNON TAPALLA'S
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS and THE WRITING INSTITUTE

CP 1 On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development
CP 2 On Grammar & Conversational English
CP 3 On Public Speaking & Leadership Training
WP 1 On Business & Technical Writing

Private Tutoring and Corporate Training are Available

MAKATI - 845-0886 / 753-1048 to 49
ALABANG - 850-4756 / 850-4757
QUEZON CITY - 372-4914 / 372-4915

HAND PALLET TRUCK

BEST PRICE ₱11,800 1 TON
BEST PRICE ₱12,800 2.5 TONS
BEST PRICE ₱15,800 3 TONS

FACTORY HEAVY DUTY USE
BUY NOW WHILE STOCKS LAST!!!

HW ELECTRIC PHILIPPINES
Tels:(02)814-0934 • 814-0935
814-0936 • Fax:841-0646

WELCOME DISTRIBUTORS
in Provinces and Metro-Manila

Be part of our growing company with bright ideas and plans for its innovative products particularly KINGFLOSS dental floss and KINGBRUSH toothbrush. Our brands enjoy a bullish market and you can help us carry them to groceries, minimarts, drugstores, sari-sari stores, etc.

Interested distributors and local area dealers may contact:
KiNGCARE PHARMACEUTICALS INC
In Search of New Directions
Tel Nos. 732-7533 • 711-2966 • 740-4615 to 17
Fax No. 712-0182 • 712-0336
Email: belman@skyinet.net

Introductory SALE...
Chicken Rotisserie
LPG
Available Capacities:
- 12 - 16 Chickens / load (4 spits)
- 18 - 24 Chickens / load (6 spits)
- 24 - 32 Chickens / load (8 spits)

Stainless, Durable, Hygienic.
EASY BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY!

For more information call/visit:
637-1808/ 651-1472
merit Stainless Steel, Inc.
168 Ortigas Center, Ortigas Avenue, Cor. Meralco Ave., Pasig City

CitiBeds® THE LEADER™
Suite Sale!
HOTEL MATTRESS INVENTORY!
Experience the comfort of Hotel Specified Sleepsets in your bedroom.
LIMITED WARRANTY TO CONSUMERS
30 NIGHT TRIAL Promises
REPLACEMENT OR REFUND IF DEFECTIVE
SAVINGS UP TO 40% LIMITED TIME ONLY!
CitiBeds THE LEADER
WE MAKE THE BEST MATTRESSES IN THE WORLD
EXPRESS DELIVERY!
Sleeprite
ORTHOcare THE MATTRESS FOR YOUR BACK
Sag-Guard
FORTY KARAT ORTHOPEDIC MATTRESSES
Syl-flex
KING KOIL®

CITIBEDS BRANCHES:
- CB SM MEGAMALL # 633-8192 / 633-8193
- CB SM CITY # 928-4258/927-4644/456-5855
- CB SOUTHMALL # 800-3756/ 800-3757
- CB SM STA. MESA#713-7202/713-7203
- CB SM BACOOR #(046) 417-1494/417-1508
- CB ALIMALL #437-9936/437-9941
- CB R. GALLERIA #636-4907/633-7641 loc. 273
- CB STA. LUCIA #681-5436
- CB N. EDSA # 3723606/3722759
- CB FAIRVIEW #4313119/4313124
- CB MAGALLANES #852-5495
- CB FILINVEST #850-3934
- CB TIMOG #3739698/4112022/3724443
- CB SHAW #5314601 to 06 loc. 24&28
- CB PACO #564-5712
- CB SFDM, QC #410-7373 to 76 # 656-2319
- CB LAS PINAS #8720635/8735513
- CB WEST AVE. #3715842/3719128 to 31
- CB EVER GOTESCO ORTIGAS #656-2319
- CB LA UNION # (072)242-6314/700-4248
- CB PANGASINAN #(075)523-6120/513-2344
- CB SM CEBU #(032)232-1455/231-9043
- CB ILOILO WHSE #D1 JARU, ILOILO CITY #(033) 320-6807/320-6602
- CB DAVAO #(082)2243779/2243786/2346720 to 21
- CB SIT N' SLEEP Shangri-la Plaza #6317708/6317684
- CB WEB PAGE: www.citibeds.com

Gloria to call special session for new listing

By A. N. Nocum and G. Lacuarta

IF it was what was needed, President Macapagal-Arroyo said yesterday she was ready to call a special session of Congress to enable four million unregistered youth to cast their votes in the May 14 elections.

The President said she also found it unacceptable that the only way a special registration for the country's first-time voters could be accommodated was to postpone the May 14 elections.

She was referring to a Commission on Elections statement that no registration at this time was possible because the law stated that a listing of voters could not be held within 120 days of voting day.

Ms Macapagal said the elections must push through as scheduled, pointing out that the electoral processes were already in motion.

If there was need to change the law to allow a special registration for new voters at this time, then she said she was willing to do this to help young voters vote.

"I still believe that the voice of the youth must not be stilled," she said.

She added that she was joining "other leaders of the land in the search for a solution for the disenfranchisement of some 4 million 18-year-olds and first-time voters in the coming May elections."

She said that young voters missed the Dec. 2 deadline set by the Comelec to register for the May 14 polls because there was no serious effort to inform the public about the registration date.

Should the millions-strong unregistered new voters be finally allowed to cast votes, administration senatorial candidates Roberto "Obet" Pagdanganan and Francisco "Kiko" Pangilinan want to make sure they'll be remembered come voting time.

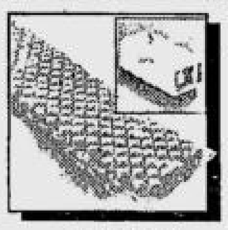
The two yesterday dropped by the picket line of the militant Akbayan-Youth outside the Comelec main office in Intramuros to pledge their support for the call to hold a special registration.

They came to talk to Akbayan-Youth members composed mostly of students from nearby schools at around 2 p.m., a day after Ms Macapagal paid a surprise visit to the Akbayan camp-out on Wednesday night. The camp-out is now on its third day.

Pangilinan said he would file a motion to intervene in the petition for certiorari filed by the Akbayan with the Supreme Court if the Comelec did not decide to set a special registration within two days.

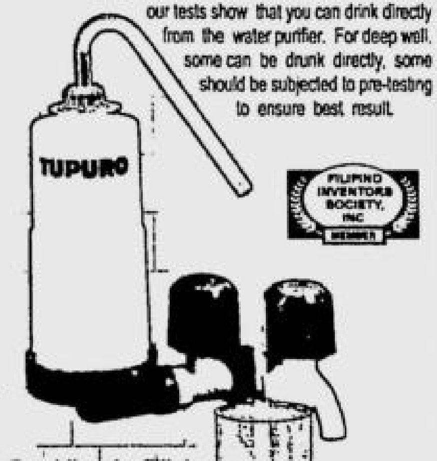
Ruben Carranza, Akbayan counsel and UP law professor, said the four million potential youth vote would neutralize the effects of "*dagdag-bawas* (vote-padding and –shaving)" on the results of the elections since the winning margins of some candidates in the 1998 elections ranged only from 30,000 to 50,000.

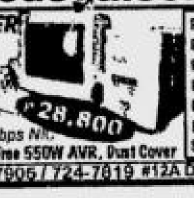
"These are first-time voters who have never been bought, who have never been bribed and who have never been fooled by traditional politicians," Carranza said.


BEDRIDDEN WITH BEDSORES?
- Totally eliminates bedsores
- No need to turn patient as pad alternately inflates & deflates every 5 minutes
- Relieves pressure on patients back
- Made in Europe

FLY PAD
FREE DELIVERY!
ALSO AVAILABLE: MEDICAL BED SORES PATCHES
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 635-04-36
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-75-40
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453 3326
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 800 40 93
GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN Shoppesville 721-34-87
CEBU 255 17 94

POWERFUL SPOTLIGHT
RE-CHARGEABLE BRIGHTNESS CAN REACH 1 MILE + 1 MILLION CP P1850.
500,000 CP P1199.
250,000 CP P999.
Built-in Very Halogen With AC adaptor & 12v dc (Car) charger batt. Bright Bulb
SEIKO PRECISION TIME RECORDER 100% MADE IN JAPAN P8.900
INDUSTRIAL ELEC. FAN P3,950 4 wide steel blades 3-Speed / 3-legs Swivel: 0 to 90° 5D
Sole Distributor: COLENT ENT. CO. Suite 200 Del Monte Manson Bldg Del Monte Ave cor Speaker Perez St Q.C.
Tels: 740-3815, 412-4317, 4112395 to 98 Fax 4112399


Safe drinking water right in your faucet...
For treated water (like NAWASA, & others...), our tests show that you can drink directly from the water purifier. For deep well, some can be drunk directly, some should be subjected to pre-testing to ensure best result.
FILIPINO INVENTORS SOCIETY, INC MEMBER
Providing the Filipino with purified drinking water for more than 10 years
TUPURO WATER PURIFIER
AVAILABLE AT: [illegible]


PC BODEGA Your One Stop Computer Shop
Best Deal In Town
www.pcbodega.com.ph Order-Online!
ARMADA GAMEMASTER Pentium III 667 MHz
- Soyo 7VBA 133 Via chipset
- 32MB Riva TNT2 M64
- 64MB RAM • 20GB HDD
- 1.44MB FDD • 200W speaker
- 17" Color Monitor • 10/100Mbps NIC

P28,800
All Brand New Components! Free 550W AVR, Dust Cover

Pentium III 733 box	8,400	Celeron 566	3,200
Pentium III 800eb	8,900	Celeron 633 box	3,950
Pentium III 850eb	9,800	Celeron 733 box	4,700
Pentium III 866 box	10,000	Celeron 766 box	5,900
Pentium III 933 box	12,400	Celeron 800 box	6,300
Pentium III 1Ghz box	14,200	Seagate 30GB	5,400
Seagate 20GB	4,350	Seagate 40GB	6,000

Tel.#(02)721-4482 / 724-7905 / 724-7819 #12A Doña Juana S. Rodriguez Ave. New Manila Q.C

BRANDED & GENERIC PRODUCTS
- HIGH STANDARD QUALITY
- IN BLISTER PACK
- AT VERY REASONABLE PRICE
- DISTRIBUTED IN HOSPITALS & DRUGSTORES NATIONWIDE

STEINBACH PRODUCTS, INC.
151 San Francisco St., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.: 532-5401 • 532-5413 • 532-1983
Fax. 532-5415
DEALERS / DISTRIBUTORS ARE WELCOME

NIBOR CASH for DIAMONDS
NIBOR DIAMOND BUYING OFFICE of the PHILIPPINES
top caliber appraisals from INTERNATIONALLY EXPERIENCED GEMOLOGISTS
- INSTANT CASH for diamonds 3 carat & above.
- REIMBURSEMENT of TRAVEL EXPENSES of out of town sellers if sale is consummated.
- REDEMPTION ASSISTANCE of jewelries and diamonds from pawnshops & banks.

ALL TRANSACTIONS KEPT CONFIDENTIAL
Tel.: 726-4749 • Mobile: (0917) 536-2456
Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm
Office: Makati City • Office & Factory: CENTRAL BUILDING, 57 Arayat St., Cubao, Quezon City

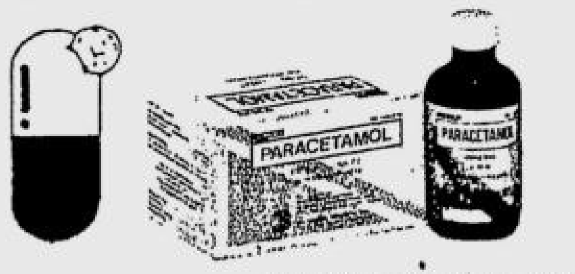
GRAND EUROPEAN TOURS
BEST VALUE PACKAGES OVER 100 CHOICE TOURS
TRAFALGAR'S
First Class • Fully Escorted • Cost Saver Tours
DISCOVER MORE OF THE WORLD FOR LESS!
Fly with Singapore Airlines from Manila or Cebu for only US$999 & enjoy 2 nights FREE in London* or any selected European cities! Add $50 for peak season rates

EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE	ENGLAND & SCOTLAND	ITALIAN DREAM	LONDON, PARIS & ROME
PARIS, LUCERNE, MILAN, ROME, FLORENCE, VENICE, INNSBRUCK, RHINELAND, AMSTERDAM	STRATFORD, COVENTRY, CHESTER, GLASGOW, EDINBURG, DURHAM, YORK	ROME, VENICE, VERONA, FLORENCE, ASSISI	LONDON, PARIS & ROME (Moderate, Superior, Deluxe)
12 days from US $ 910	6 days from US $ 495	8 days from US $ 580	10 days from US $ 850

SCANDINAVIA, RUSSIA & INDEPENDENT STATES	EUROPEAN HERITAGE	Highlights of SPAIN, MOROCCO & PORTUGAL
ENGLAND, DENMARK, SWEDEN, FINLAND, RUSSIA, BELARUS, POLAND, GERMANY, BELGIUM, FRANCE	AMSTERDAM, RHINELAND, LUCERNE, LIECHTENSTEIN, INNSBRUCK, VIENNA, VENICE, ROME, FLORENCE, NICE, BARCELONA, MADRID, LOURDES, BORDEAUX, PARIS	MADRID, GRANADA, COSTA DEL SOL, FEZ, MARRAKESH, CASABLANCA, RABAR, TANGIER, SEVILLE, LISBON, FATIMA, SALAMANCA
20 days from US $ 2,140	24 days from US $ 1,675	16 days from US $ 975

General Sales Agent - Philippines
For further inquiries, call or visit your travel agent or:
pan·pacific TRAVEL CORPORATION
IATA PTAA MEMBER TO-243-2000
Ermita: Pacific Place Building, 539 Arquiza St., Ermita, Manila • Tels.: 536-1265, 536-1267, 526-6437, 523-1990
Makati: L G I Herrera Tower Condominium, 98 Herrera cor Valero Sts., Salcedo Village, Makati City • Tels.: 810-8551 to 56
Binondo: 353 Nueva Street, Binondo • Tel.: 243-6666 connecting all departments • Fax.: 244-0311
Cebu: Diplomat Hotel, Suite 6, 90 F Ramos Street, Cebu City • Tels.: 254-0343, 254-0347, 254-0349

We invite you to experience an evening of praise & thanksgiving with
Don MOEN GOD is Good
The Philippine Tour 2001
with Lenny LeBlanc & Rachel Wilson
MARCH 17 • SATURDAY • 8PM
MARCH 18 • SUNDAY • 6:30PM
ARANETA COLISEUM
MARCH 16 • CEBU CITY SPORTS COMPLEX
MARCH 20 • ILOILO SPORTS COMPLEX
MARCH 21 • PANA-AD PARK & STADIUM, BACOLOD CITY
MARCH 23 & 24 • CENTENNIAL EXPO CLARKFIELD, PAMPANGA
Tickets at Popular Prices!
P600 • P500 • P300 P200 • P100
AVAILABLE AT: MAXMEDIA TICKETING OFFICE 813-8999 893-7737
SM TICKETNET FOR RESERVATIONS & INQUIRIES CALL 911-5555
All-New DON MOEN CD's and Cassettes: *"I Will Sing"*, *"Mercy Seat"*, and *"En Tu Presencia"* now available at Praise, Inc. and your favorite record bars.


DLI GENERICS
QUALITY NA MURA PA SA BOTICA
Suggested Retail Price

	Price		Price
Ambroxol Capsule 75 mg	6.50	Diclofenac Sod. Film Coated Tablet 50 mg	4.70
Amoxicillin Capsule 250 mg	3.75	Glibenclamide Tablet 5 mg	2.00
Amoxicillin Capsule 500 mg	6.00	INH - Syrup 100 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	45.00
Amoxicillin Suspension 125 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	45.00	Isoniazid Tablet 300 mg	1.50
Ampicillin Capsule 500 mg	7.25	Loperamide HCl Capsule 2 mg	2.75
Ampicillin Powder for Injection 500 mg, vial	35.00	Mefenamic Acid Capsule 250 mg	2.50
Bromhexine HCl Syrup 4 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	45.00	Mefenamic Acid Tablet 500 mg	3.00
Bromhexine HCl Tablet 8 mg	1.75	Multi-Vitamin Syrup 60 mL	56.00
Carbocisteine (SCMC) Capsule 500 mg	4.50	Multi-Vitamin Tablet	3.00
Carbocisteine Syrup (SCMC) 100 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	49.00	Paracetamol Syrup 125 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	36.50
Cephalexin Capsule 500 mg	11.00	Paracetamol Tablet 500 mg	0.90
Chloramphenicol Suspension 125 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	63.00	Rifampicin Suspension 100 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	75.00
Combi Pack - INH-Rifam-PZA 300/450/500 mg	27.00/day	Rifampicin Capsule 450 mg	15.00
Combi Pack - INH-Rifam 300/450 mg	18.00/day	Salbutamol Syrup 2 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	42.00
Co-trimoxazole Suspension (TM-40 mg, SMZ-200 mg), 60 mL	56.00	Salbutamol Tablet 2 mg	1.75
Co-trimoxazole Tablet (TM-80 mg, SMZ-400 mg)	4.00	Vitamins B1 + B6 + B12 Tablet	3.50

Member: Generic Association of the Phil., Available nationwide (not yet available in Mercury Drug)
Address: 3rd Floor Lawyers Coop. Bldg., 459 Quezon Ave., Quezon City, Metro Manila
Tel. Nos.: 711-3933, 741-7763, 712-4990, 741-9203, 743-1620, 743-1626 FAX: 712-4921, 743-1633
E-Mail: pacific@DLI-Generics.com Complete FACTORY PRICES available at WEBSITE: www.DLI-Generics.com
DEALERS/DISTRIBUTORS ARE WELCOME

Facial Care Centre SOLUTIONS
"Dark skin? Not for me!"
Jenny Sarmiento-Icasas Jeweller
Skin Problem: hyper-pigmentation due to over exposure to sun and UV rays
Solution: Shiroi Active Whitening Treatment originated in Japan, the treatment promotes skin clarity for hyper-pigmentation problems and stabilizes skin tone over dark, blotchy and uneven areas. Whether you have sun-darkened or naturally born dark skin, **Shiroi Active Whitening Treatment** is guaranteed to make your skin fairer, whiter.
Real Problems. Real Solutions. Call Facial Care Centre NOW!
FREE TWO (2) INTENSIVE CLARIFYING TREATMENTS upon enrollment until March 11, 2001 only!
Facial care centre Where Beautiful Skin Happens
NEW LOCATION

MAKATI	ORTIGAS	QUEZON CITY	SHAW	ALABANG	BINONDO	CEBU
817-3323 812-6080/81 Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St.	687-2196 687-2197 631-3007 • 631-3045 Robinsons Equitable Tower, ADB Ave.	372-6633 372-6634 410-3709 • 410-3710 Cedar Executive Bldg. Timog Avenue	534-7701/02 717-0076 Sunshine Square Plaza	842-1144 809-9583 / 850-4577 Citibank-Frabelle Bldg. Alabang-Zapote Rd.	242-2148 242-2185 Federal Tower Bldg. Dasmariñas St.	233-7631 233-7633/35 Keppel Centre, Cebu City

ALL CENTERS ARE NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK. Per DTI-NCR Permit #0494, Series of 2001
MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SAT. (8 AM - 5 PM) / SUN. (10 AM - 3 PM)

Angara belittles survey, says it's only 1st round

OPPOSITION senatorial candidate Edgardo Angara yesterday tried to minimize the Social Weather Stations survey showing that the Senate ticket of the administration People Power Coalition will win eight seats to the Puwersa ng Masa's five, or by an 8-5 result.

Angara said the survey reflected only the "first round" of the election campaign and that the "grimmest scenario" for the Estrada-backed Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino-PnM was a "7-6" result in favor of opposition candidates.

"The 8-5 result in the February SWS survey is the starting figure. This was the first round and at that point, the issues and track records have yet to be heard," Angara said in a statement.

Makati Rep. Agapito "Butz" Aquino, LDP campaign manager, said a "7-6" by the PPC comprised its "best case scenario."

"My own projection is a 9-4 result with the opposition candidates dominating the election," Aquino said in another statement.

Former senator Santanina Rasul, who only recently joined the PnM, charged that the release of the results of the SWS survey was part of the "psychological warfare" waged by the administration party.

"The end of March is a good time for a survey," she said at a press conference yesterday.

Independent senatorial candidate Orlando Mercado yesterday said he was pleased with the initial response of the people as indicated in the survey even if he failed to land in the Magic 13.

Crossing party lines

"It just shows that people will cross party lines. It is a manifestation of our electorate being more careful now and I think they are still evaluating the qualifications of all candidates," said Mercado, who served two terms in the Senate from 1987 to 1998.

The SWS survey, which covered 1,500 respondents, was conducted on Feb. 22-25.

Angara said the opposition party believed that it could still pull off a win with a "7-6" result, as the fight in the Luzon and Visayas regions would be "even."

The opposition's edge, he said, would be Mindanao with its eight million votes.

"The battle in the so-called Lingayen-Lucena corridor, the vote-rich political territory, is the level of parity. No party has a clear mandate. The PPC has failed to make headway in this area and this is the most interesting dimension of the campaign," Angara said.

Militant groups who reacted to the survey yesterday asked voters to judge candidates based on their platform and not on popularity.

Rodolfo Sambajon, chair of the Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas, also urged the electorate to junk four candidates associated with ousted President Joseph Estrada who were able to land in the "Magic 13" in the SWS survey.

"Perhaps there are candidates or patriotic aspirants who are clean and above par than the likes of Panfilo Lacson, Juan Ponce Enrile, Miriam Defensor-Santiago and Gregorio Honasan," Sambajon said.

Sambajon, however, clarified that this position of militant groups should not be interpreted as an endorsement of the candidates of the PPC, most of whom played key roles in the Second People Power revolt in January.

Bishops' call

Sambajon said his group was supporting the stand of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, which earlier urged voters not to limit their choices to the PPC candidates.

Sambajon said majority of the candidates in both the PPC ticket and the Estrada-backed Puwersa ng Masa were "carriers of old politics." He suggested his group could support certain candidates based on their platform.

Martin Marfil, Gerald Lacuarta and Cynthia Balana

Puwersa out of gas in Tacloban

IT was not harassment but merely a precaution.

Administration candidate for senator Sergio Osmeña III said yesterday the government was not out to sabotage the campaign of the opposition Puwersa ng Masa but was just making sure that "someone did not hightail it out of the country."

This after the opposition had complained that it was having a hard time buying gasoline for its vehicles on the campaign trail, allegedly on orders of the military.

"I don't think it had to do with the Puwersa ng Masa campaign," Osmeña said.

He said it was likely related to the alert put out by the military for any attempt to flee the country by ousted President Joseph Estrada, the nominal head of the Puwersa ng Masa coalition.

Estrada had reportedly tried three times to fly out of the country during a campaign swing through Mindanao recently, but each attempt was thwarted.

Estrada could receive the death penalty if he is convicted of any of eight counts of plunder he is currently facing.

If the opposition was blaming the administration for its lack of fuel, blame lay elsewhere for an aborted rally in Tacloban City Wednesday.

The Puwersa ng Masa rally in the city did not push through after only a handful of people showed up at the 3,000-capacity People's Center.

The rally was scheduled to start at 2 p.m. but after an hour, only candidate Juan Ponce Enrile, the advance parties of some Puwersa candidates and fewer than 50 of their supporters were at the venue.

After learning that only a few people were at the rally, Vicente Sotto III, PM campaign manager, who was still at the Daniel Z. Romualdez Airport, decided to call the whole thing off.

Loi urges women to unite

FORMER first lady Dr. Luisa "Loi" Ejercito, who has long been portrayed as a suffering wife, yesterday embraced the issue of women empowerment during International Women's Day.

Ejercito, whose husband, deposed President Joseph Estrada, has openly displayed his dalliances with other women, urged those of her gender to unite and develop their own voting bloc in the May 14 elections.

Ejercito is running for senator under the Partido ng Masang Pilipino of her husband. She has been on the campaign trail with candidates from other parties who have formed the Puwersa ng Masa coalition, which is battling the administration's People Power Coalition slate.

DISCOVER LIFE:

LIFE UNDERWRITERS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

CONVENTION 2001

THE LIFE Underwriters Association of the Philippines will hold its annual convention with this year's theme: Discover L.I.F.E., on March 26 and 27. The venue has been changed to the Grand Ballroom of the Manila Midtown Hotel, Pedro Gil St., corner M. Adriatico St., Ermita, Manila, due to the unfortunate fire incident at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

Since 1972
nora
dela
rosa
The Beauty Skin Care
Specialist
for Men & Women

- practically painless
- very little trauma to the tissue
- very little fading
- variety of hypoallergenic pigments to choose from
- no nerve-racking noise from a tattoo machine

Main Clinic
G/F, 427 Martinez St., (9 de Pebrero) Mandaluyong City
(2 blocks away from Mandaluyong City Hall)
Tels. 532-2115 / 534-2671 / 719-6128
Clinic Schedules: Monday-Friday 10AM - 8 PM
Saturday: 9 AM - 6 PM
By Appointments Only
US (California) Branch
10041 Lampson Ave., Gardengrove, California, USA, 92840
Tels. (714) 530-3124

Introduces....
Softap method

Softap Micropigmentation is a gentle means of implanting a pigment into the stationary layer of skin, ensuring long lasting results.

Softap uses a hand set tool with a manual tapping motion which provides 100% accuracy.

- **Eyeliner**
  Lash enhancement which is completely natural looking with slight definition limited within lash area only. Full liner top and bottom or thin fine lines are recommended for a more natural look or thicker extended lines for a more dramatic look.
- **Eyebrow**
  Natural looking eyebrow for you that will not wear off throughout one's busy day. With Softap, we are able to create the look of individual hairs.
- **Lipliner and Lipfills**
  Colors are very natural looking.
- **Specialty Markings**
  Create or accentuate beauty marks

Other Services Offered:
- **Strictly personalized treatment of:**
  Acne, Whiteheads, Blackheads, Pigmentation, and Removal of Skin Tags with no traumatic cauterization by exclusive combination of singularly effective formulas, techniques and procedures.
- **Semi-permanent eyelash curling**

EFFICACY • QUALITY • BEST RESULTS
BFAD Approved
Congratulations!
ABS BITTER HERBS
Ampalaya Capsule charagen
PROUDLY FILIPINO
Herbal supplement for
Diabetes
Arthritis
Asthma
Body Cleansing

BFAD FR-24465
BFAD FR-24464

The 1st and only BFAD approved
AMPALAYA CAPSULE FOOD SUPPLEMENT
to be exhibited and promoted in the
NATURAL PRODUCTS EXPO WEST
Herbal Natural & Organic Show
ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A March 8-11, 2001
WORLD'S LARGEST TRADE EXPO
Philippine Participation Organized by:
CITEM CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE EXPOSITIONS AND MISSIONS
dti
Products available at mercury drug and all leading drugstores nationwide
For inquiries call 750-9949 (phone/fax) or visit our website at www.absgen.com

TO SEE IS TO BELIEVE!

E. Excel Products available at
Excellent Essentials International Corporation!

✓ ALL ORIGINAL

✓ NEWLY IMPORTED FROM
E. EXCEL INTERNATIONAL
UTAH, USA

FREE registration and regular business opportunity seminars are on-going at
22/F Rufino Pacific Tower
6784 Ayala Avenue cor. Herrera St., Makati City

We are open from Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 7:00PM,
and on Saturdays at 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

Visit us NOW and experience a different way of living.
We are here and we are here to stay!

E. EXCEL INTERNATIONAL
Excellent Essentials International Corporation
the NEW exclusive distributor of E. Excel International Products
We believe...
For inquiries, please call 811-1012 to 13

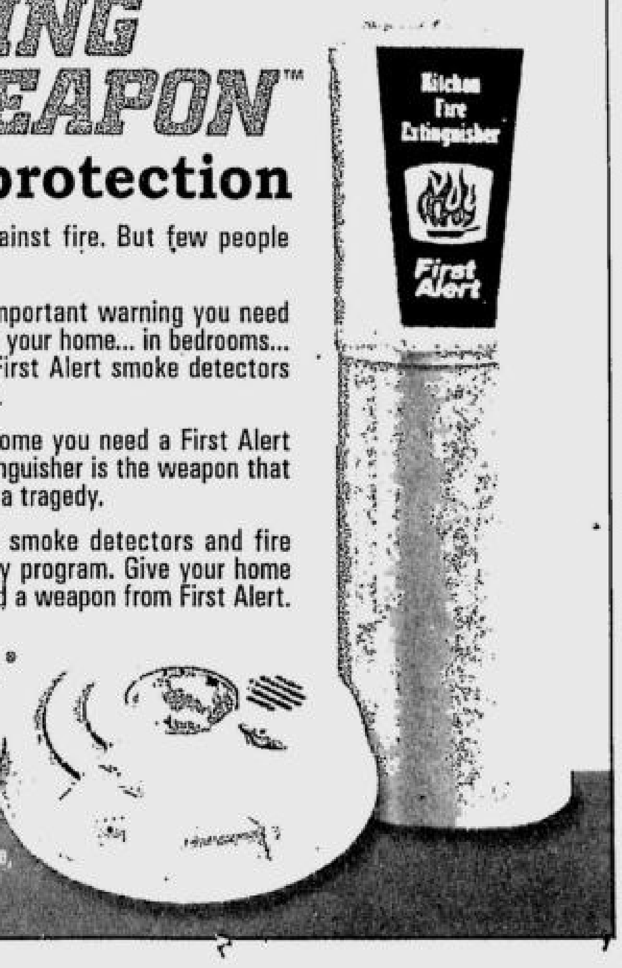
A Smoke Detector.
A Fire Extinguisher.
A WARNING AND A WEAPON™
for total fire protection

Most people will have a warning against fire. But few people will have a weapon.

First Alert smoke detectors are the important warning you need in case of fire. Placed on every level of your home... in bedrooms... in the hallway... in the family room. First Alert smoke detectors are the first line of defense against fire.

But for total fire protection in your home you need a First Alert fire extinguisher. A First Alert fire extinguisher is the weapon that can prevent a small fire from becoming a tragedy.

First Alert offers a complete line of smoke detectors and fire extinguisher for a complete fire safety program. Give your home total fire protection with a warning and a weapon from First Alert.



FirstAlert®
...Because your family comes first!

Available at: Robinson's Handyman, Pure Gold, Hardware Plus, Shopwise, True Value Home Center, Hardware One, SM Hardware Workshop, ACE Hardware, MC Home Builders, Pioneer Center & other leading hardware stores.

GMA: 'Woman power' very much alive in my gov't

(From page A1)

During the dialogue at the Ultra, Ms Macapagal said it was necessary that women occupy positions of power.

"We women have proven without doubt that we can do what men can," she said in Filipino.

She cited the women achievers she had placed in her Cabinet: Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas, Civil Service Commission chair Karina David, Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin, Social Welfare Secretary Dinky Soliman, Presidential Management Staff chief Vicky Garchitorena, National Anti-Poverty Commission chair Teresita Quintos-Deles, presidential assistant and consultant Margarita "Tingting" Cojuangco and three women members in the peace panel—Emily Marohombsar, Riza Hontiveros and Irene Santiago.

Ms Macapagal said she placed women in the peace panel because she believed women had the ability to "build bridges instead of walls" and this could lead to reconciliation and peace.

She worked up the crowd by citing a study that showed that women were better managers than men. She said a recent survey showed that the incidence of poverty was lower in households headed by women compared to those run by men.

Managers

"What this means is that Filipino women have the ability (to be managers). I don't know if the statistics is the same in other countries," she said.

The President also turned the Women's Day celebration in Ultra into a campaign sortie for the administration's senatorial candidates, specially the women in the slate. She made special mention of former Internal Revenue Commissioner Liwayway Vinzons Chato, whom she said the people should vote for in May.

Ms Macapagal said that although Filipino women had made giant leaps in society, a lot still had to be done in empowering them. She noted that discrimination in the workplace and in society was still a reality. So was violence against women.

Later at Smokey Mountain, Ms Macapagal had what she would later call a "most eventful" experience: she was booed by some pro-Estrada residents.

With a fixed smile on her face, Ms Macapagal tried to reach out to the crowd that just watched her as she toured tenement houses where they live.

Some residents even banged pans and washbasins, chanting "*Erap pa rin Erap pa rin.*"

The President tried to appear unconcerned and went on her way, knocking at doors and attempting to enter several units in the buildings.

Surprised residents just let her in, but didn't warm up to her.

At one time, Ms Macapagal stood knocking at the door of one unit for three minutes, while the woman inside tried to shoo her off.

"*Maka-Erap kami. Marami siyang naitulong sa amin* (We are for Estrada. He helped us a lot)," the woman shouted.

No giving up

The President did not give up until she was finally ushered inside.

Recalling the event, Ms Macapagal later said: "I think it's probably one of the most memorable moments of my presidency."

"I went to the houses and to the apartments of those who were rabidly pro-Erap and I asked them why (they were pro-Erap) and I had very good and sincere answers from them," she said.

"You cannot have peace and reconciliation unless you reach out and you must find out what are the obstacles to peace and reconciliation so that you can address it," she added.

The President said she was very "grateful for the frank and candid feedback" they gave her.

In Bontoc, Mt. Province, some 100 women-farmers left their fields to join 600 other women in celebrating International Women's Day.

The Igorot women wore their traditional skirts and ancestral beads as they performed local plays and dances. Younger Igorots sang about the women-farmers' role in the community and in politics.

The Mt. Province Educational Theater's Group performed a play titled *Aga Di Ungung-A* (Cry of the Children) that deals with incestuous rape, which is reportedly rampant in the province.

Lyn Madalang, executive director of the Baguio-based Ebgan Inc., said Cordillera women have been in the forefront in the struggle against intrusions in the life and resources of Igorots.

Cordilleras

"In the Cordilleras, women struggled way back, even before we started celebrating the International Women's Day," Madalang said.

She said women from Kalinga and the Mt. Province towns of Sagada and Bontoc had also opposed the dam and mining projects in their areas in the past.

In Davao City, candidates for various local posts took advantage of the occasion by shaking hands with women voters.

Councilor Luzviminda Ilagan, chair of the city council's women committee, said she and other members of the March 8 Convenors tried to keep politics out of the women's day activity they organized but some politicians simply could not be stopped from using the occasion to campaign.

In Cagayan de Oro City, Gabriela said commercial sex workers were being abused and mauled by corrupt policemen who also sell drugs to the women.

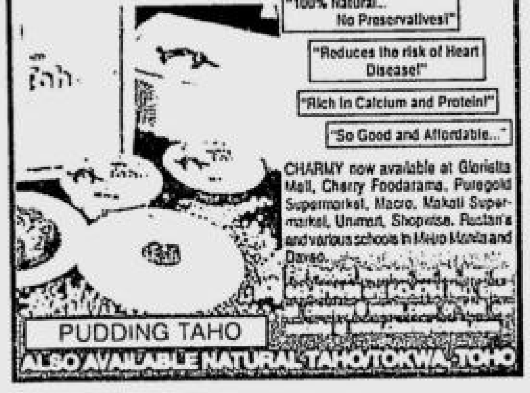
The local government exacts P600 a year from each of the women in the form of professional taxes, police, court and health clearances, said Lalae Garcia, Gabriela spokesperson.

There are about 400 registered sex workers in the city but nongovernment groups believe that the number could double because of the existence of many freelancers.

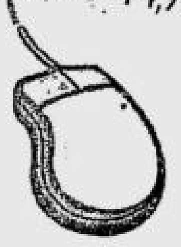
Weng Turmon, chair of the Tingog sa Kasanag, an NGO composed of former commercial sex workers, said many of the women are brutalized, raped and abused by policemen who conduct regular raids in the places where they stay. ***With reports from Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau and Jowel F. Canuday, Froilan Gallardo and Elled Red, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

WIN THE ELECTION
COMELEC APPROVED SIZES
As low as P6.00
ORDER NOW, GET AHEAD!
Streamers
☑ up to six (6) colors print
☑ 50,000 pcs. a day output
☑ Durable and all-weather
N.R. TRADING & INDUSTRIES, INC.
Q.C. Office: (02) 911-5945 ● (02) 911-5974 ● (02) 911-5992
Meycauayan Plant: (044) 840-7534
Cell: (0917) 817-7669 ● (0917) 526-9030
(0917) 423-6146 ● (0919) 574-1699

SOYA... SO GOOD!
...SO HEALTHY!
Looks Best!! Tastes Best!!
CHARMY®
"100% Natural.. No Preservatives!"
"Reduces the risk of Heart Disease!"
"Rich in Calcium and Protein!"
"So Good and Affordable..."
CHARMY now available at Glorietta Mall, Cherry Foodarama, Puregold Supermarket, Macro, Makati Supermarket, Unimart, Shopwise, Rustan's and various schools in Metro Manila and Davao.
PUDDING TAHO
ALSO AVAILABLE NATURAL TAHO/TOKWA, TOHO



Laser Printer
~~P11,999~~ - P7,999
DVD Drive
~~P6,500~~ - P4,999
CD-RW Drive
~~P4,999~~ - P6,999
Branded CD Disk
~~P39~~ - P25
Branded PC
~~P43,999~~ - P25,999
MS Office
~~P12,500~~ - P4,999
all available at:
SILICON VALLEY
computer centre



COMPUTER BODEGA
sale!
March 15 - 18 2001
up to 50% discount
on selected items!
BIG, BIG Discount on All Home PC, Commercial PC, Notebooks, Palm PDA & many many more
HEAD OFFICE:
#35-San Antonio St., SFDM Quezon City, 1105
Tel nos.: 371-5611-20 / 415-5171
Fax nos. 374-4908 / 415-5172
E-mail : marketin@siliconvalley.com.ph

RUSH
ELECTION CAMPAIGN MATERIALS
We specialize in stickers, posters, pocket calendars, fans, leaflets, and sample ballots.
We offer the **most affordable prices** with premium quality printing guaranteed. Color Separation and layout of artwork are **free of charge.**
Donate Campaign Materials to your candidate-friends now.
It's the perfect way to show them your support.
We also accept running of election materials at reasonable price.
Call us now: 253-5523,253-5525, 253-5527
253-5531, 253-5536. 253-5541
Let the Expert help you!

OWN A RESIDENTIAL UNIT
MADISON MANOR CONDO
NO RESERVATION NO DOWNPAYMENT

FIRST RESIDENTIAL CONDO IN LAS PINAS
W/ 2BR & PARKING FOR ONLY P1.2M+
FREE Dryer Machine for Buyers!
INFRONT OF SM SOUTHMALL
For inquiries, please call
JING 0917-6078935
ROSE 0917-4676320
TESS GARCES 0917-4795452
ALICE 0918-3008946

SOLID GOLD
COLOR FILM
Collect Match & Win
Winning Number Combinations
(February 28, 2001)
NOKIA 5110

669707	489366	609524	774205	300605
370273	865010	454727	384152	399909

Professional Camera Bag:

803565	458981	181093	406596	715810	834864	207519
355938	125324	631825	805698	477591	794231	523279
620130	733516	597715	821372	766835	754038	307539
498293	843810	236456	568108	176031	325074	275081
581132	385592	438676	728624	207349	293710	475032
291701	820207	369549	238128	179808	291642	527312
258804	375930	100264	578352	828943	394641	415868
865392						

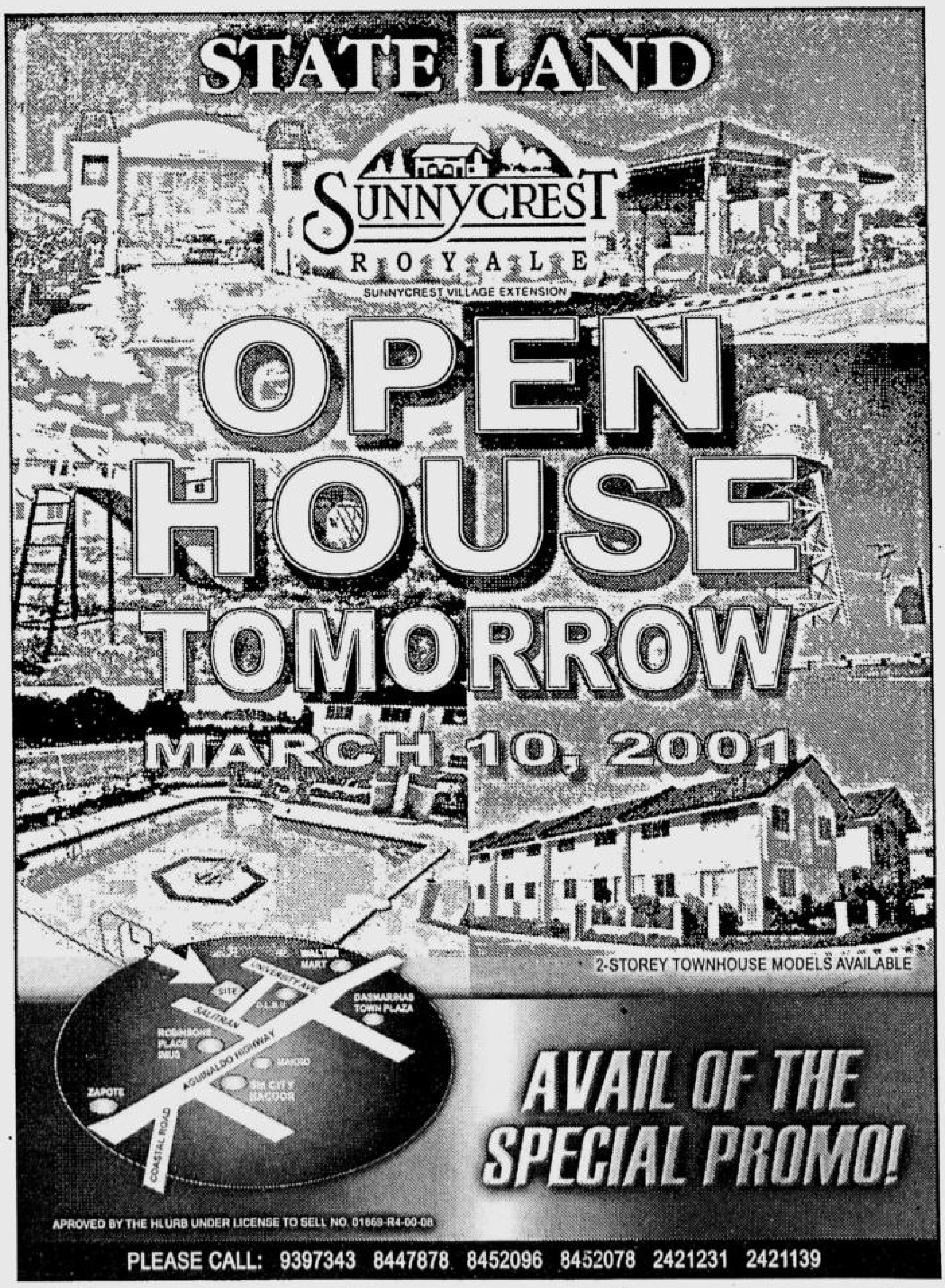
Photographer's Vests:

801605	561548	433680	359563	738068	359564	449336
186008	593451	468553	132410	164960	679217	237817
511546	393472	243435	455691	445879	782592	848141
539362	749907	207183	481825	870247	541820	695365
717878	732402	519206	546842	393731	349686	212073
749458	381971	183142	581592	470832	871145	635905
349882	642001	765706	234416	344176	503038	866132
709186						

Solid Gold T-Shirt w/ collar:

521432	307235	620211	184204	525611	629273	492371
514986	714215	531074	728135	353672	153457	490375
856954	503370	871231	224751	708169	631730	527345
683834	201948	455796	328457	533219	154226	754508
524993	828379	804675	280365	493944	194190	461453
109460	564132	160862	504876	735253	613482	619546
833179	581859	425067	790461	421394	180796	698637
863976						

Per.DTI-NCR Permit No. 0831, Series of 2000



STATE LAND
SUNNYCREST ROYALE
SUNNYCREST VILLAGE EXTENSION
OPEN HOUSE TOMORROW
MARCH 10, 2001
2-STOREY TOWNHOUSE MODELS AVAILABLE
AVAIL OF THE SPECIAL PROMO!
APROVED BY THE HLURB UNDER LICENSE TO SELL NO. 01669-R4-00-08
PLEASE CALL: 9397343 8447878 8452096 8452078 2421231 2421139

It's their time to shine!

Her Excellency
GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
President
Republic of the Philippines

I convey my warmest felicitations to the officers, staff and sales associates of All AsiaPlans Corporation on their 4th Anniversary and Annual Sales Convention.

I commend this year's outstanding sales associates and other sales achievers for promoting savings consciousness among Filipinos and for providing pension plans that allow individuals to retire with financial security.

The pre-need industry is one of the more steady revenue contributors to the national government. As one of the leaders in the pre-need education and pension plan sectors, All AsiaPlans Corporation sets the trend in upgrading the quality of products and services of the pre-need industry in our country.

The transition to a new administration beckons the task of nation building. Join me in rebuilding this nation towards greater peace, progress and prosperity.

Mabuhay!

LILIA R. BAUTISTA
Chairperson
Securities and Exchange Commission

Congratulations to all the delegates, awardees and honorees of All AsiaPlans Corporation--outstanding men and women who will be duly recognized at its 2001 Sales Convention.

Cognizant of the important role you play in the pre-need industry in particular, and the Philippine economy in general, allow me to commend you in your ceaseless efforts to provide pre-need products to your fellowmen through your education and pension plans. As "Creators of the Future", the numerous Filipino families that you have served and shall continue to serve, will face the future, confident that they will be able to meet life's uncertainties.

May you continue to strive to serve as living examples of dedicated service worthy of emulation among your peers and in the industry as a whole.

Congratulations and more power!

Lilia R. Bautista

ROLANDO C. RAMOS
President & Chief Operating Officer
All AsiaPlans Corporation

It is with great jubilation that we gather today as one family for the 2001 Sales Convention. Despite the difficulties of the times, the economic and political crises, and the uncertainty of the future, we have risen beyond all these and successfully surpassed our own expectations, proving once again our resiliency as a company and as a people.

In behalf of the Board of Directors, the Management and Staff, and the entire All AsiaPlans family, allow me to congratulate the very same people who have made our achievements possible--the sales associates. Indeed, all our efforts will have been for naught were it not for the hardworking and dedicated sales people who form the backbone of our organization. And definitely, our awardees are among the pre-need industry's best.

As we embark on a new road in the life of the company, I enjoin everyone to look beyond themselves and heed the call for change. Change in our paradigms, change in our beliefs, change in our habits. Let us not lose sight of our visions. Together we can face whatever difficulties life has for us. And we shall emerge victorious!

Again, my heartfelt congratulations!

All AsiaPlans

salutes its top sales associates on its

SALES CONVENTION 2001

from March 7-9, 2001 at The Marco Polo Davao

TOP AGENCY MANAGERS

1st Place
DEXTER S. MACATANGAY
Metro Manila 4

2nd Place
ALICIA B. CHINCUANCO
Metro Manila 1

3rd Place
AURORA S. SORIANO
Metro Manila 3

TOP UNIT MANAGERS

1st Place
BERNARDINO R. MORRERA
Southern Mindanao

2nd Place
LOIDA S. BACLIG
Metro Manila 7

3rd Place
JENNIFER L. TAN
Metro Manila 2

TOP SALES CONSULTANTS

1st Place
TENSIE F. ILUSTRY
Southern Mindanao

2nd Place
MELODY GAY L. MANGLIGOT
Cagayan Valley

3rd Place
JOSE V. LACANILAO, JR.
Metro Manila 2

4th Place
SUSAN R. BALAYAN
Metro Manila 8

5th Place
AMALIA T. FRANCISCO
Metro Manila 8

6th Place
DIOSDADO V. PAYUMO III
Metro Manila 2

7th Place
MA. ADELAIDA A. SANTOS
Metro Manila 8

8th Place
JAMIE RUTH C. FRANCISCO
Corporate Sales

9th Place
JOSEPHINE M. CAGA
Southern Mindanao

10th Place
ANTONIO H. CERVANTES
Metro Manila 8

CORPORATE SALES

Special Markets Award
AILEEN G. SAHID
Top Sales Consultant

Golden Life Award
YOLYN J. ALBURO
Top Unit Manager

Golden Life Award
MARIBEL A. JAPSON
Top Agency Manager

Golden Life Award
EVA M. VILLALON
Top Corporate Area Manager

SPECIAL CITATIONS

Top Special Agency Manager
FERDIE A. DIMAGIBA
Eastern Central Luzon

Top Area Manager
ISIAH JOEL M. GARCIA
Metro Manila 8

Top Regional Sales Manager
HENRY A. PERFECTO
Eastern Central Luzon

See you next year for the 2002 Sales Convention!

The Securities and Exchange Commission has not approved this advertisement or determined if this is accurate or complete. Any representation to the contrary constitutes a violation of the Revised Securities Act and is criminally punishable. The public is encouraged to report immediately to the Securities and Exchange Commission any misrepresentation or false or inaccurate statement.

NPC wants to replace Namfrel

THE NATIONAL Press Club building in Intramuros, Manila. VAL HANDUMON

(From page A1)

club said.

"We can rely on NPC members in the provinces, particularly the broadcasters. Several big radio stations have committed full support—Radio Mindanao Network, dwIZ, dzXI, dzEC, among other networks," Perez said.

"I know that print and broadcast journalists are prepared for the task," said Perez, not knowing that a number of NPC members do not share his enthusiasm.

Like the Manila City Hall Reporters' Association (Machra). In a letter to Namfrel, the 30-member association said "handling the election quick count is a very delicate matter which requires utmost objectivity and we believe that Namfrel, so far, has not failed the public in this regard."

Accrediting the Namfrel "is the only way to ensure an unbiased, independent quick count," Machra said.

Some NPC officers also expressed doubts over the club's capability to undertake the project.

Louie Logarta, an NPC director and reporter of the Daily Tribune, said he and the other officers were kept in the dark about the project.

"It's the (NPC) leadership, which wants it," Logarta said. "The understanding was that the project would be a simple media monitoring of the May elections."

No consultation

Another NPC officer, Jim Bilasano of Malaya, said there was no "prior consultation with club members."

A former newsman joked that the NPC was "doing the quick count for the money."

A reporter covering Comelec, who asked not to be named, said the same thing. But he was not joking.

"Why should we get involved in poll watching and the counting of votes?" asked Jake Macasaet, publisher and chair of Malaya. "Newsmen should be doing news gathering on election day," he said.

Macasaet, also president of the Philippine Press Institute (PPI), said none of the papers would support the NPC quick count project. "They will just use us," he said in Filipino.

Isagani Yambot, INQUIRER publisher and PPI vice president, said "the task of the media in an election is principally to gather and report the news about the polls."

"The media should concentrate on their work of reporting," he said. "They should not be involved in watching the polls and counting votes. The task is best left to a credible and reputable citizens' group that has had long experience in this undertaking."

In an editorial last week, the INQUIRER cited Namfrel and other citizens' groups for "doing the thankless job of voter education and election monitoring which are signposts of the advances of our democracy."

A check with NPC records disclosed that of 3,011 members, 1,651 were "inactive." The 1,360 active ones consist of 309 lifetime members, 784 regulars, 245 associates and 22 journalists from out of town.

But Perez said that NPC members would not be alone in conducting the quick count. "We have partners from the business sector, groups like the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Employers Confederation of the Philippines," he said.

"We will also have citizen-volunteers to back up NPC members. They will cover all precincts nationwide. The group of (former Comelec commissioner) Haydee Yorac, the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting, also promised to join us," Perez said.

Has the NPC started mobilizing its "network of volunteers" in Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao?

"Well, they are ready. Like a knockdown car, it's easy to assemble them. They'll be ready as soon as we get a go-signal from the Comelec. We can easily mobilize not just 250,000 but up to one million volunteers," Perez said. But NPC insiders said Perez was dreaming.

Polistrat

The press club has also obtained the services of Polistrat, a private management consultancy firm led by Jose "Joey" Leviste, a top official of the trade and industry ministry during the Marcos administration.

Perez said Leviste's group "will handle the technical aspect of the quick count. But it's the NPC that will call the shots, not them."

Other NPC consultants include public relations practitioner Allen Mojica and Gabrielle Iglesias of the University of the Philippines College of Public Administration, according to NPC insiders.

"Polistrat will be doing it pro bono (for free). They're doing volunteer work. They're also doing it for promotions purposes. They're after exposure and they need media's help," Perez said.

In a statement, the NPC said it "does not need much money to perform (its role as poll watchdog). No capital requirement should be imposed to do public service. This is purely volunteerism."

The club admitted it "does not have money and resources because it is a nonprofit and service-oriented club."

"(Any) question on its financial capability is out of context. The right question is: 'Does the NPC have the capability to coordinate and organize media?' Yes, all tasks, in fact," the NPC said.

Antonio and Perez emphasized that the press club was "up to the job."

"Of course, we can do it," seconded Butch del Castillo, NPC vice president and Manila Times columnist. "We can do it better," he said.

But the NPC itself cannot solve some of its problems.

Unpaid water bills

It has arrears of more than P1.5 million in electric and water bills. It is facing a strike notice from employees who complain about unpaid benefits and unremitted contributions to the Social Security System amounting to P400,000.

A former NPC president is charged with the misuse of P4.5 million in club funds.

Antonio noted that the first election quick count was done in the early 1960s by the Philippine News Service (PNS), a local wire agency co-owned by four newspapers.

"It was successful and there was no cheating. But this was discontinued when the government bought the PNS during the Marcos regime," Antonio said.

In 1992, he recalled that the Comelec accredited the media for the unofficial count. "But Namfrel later lobbied Congress and succeeded in removing the media-based provision in the law and substituted it with the words citizens' arm."

"What is Namfrel after all? It's just a name, an organization," Del Castillo said. "And how do they mobilize volunteers? Through contributions. From where? Mostly from the business sector."

He said they knew "the group of (Namfrel chair Jose) Concepcion Jr. has been badmouthing us."

Del Castillo accused the Namfrel chair of "acting like he has a franchise on honesty. He thinks he's appointed by Moses. He thinks he's the only one who knows how to count votes."

Namfrel got P100 million

"Did you know that Joecon got more than P100 million in contributions from big business during the 1998 elections? And he's not accountable to anybody. There's no audit, no nothing and he is claiming to be honest," said the veteran journalist.

In a March 2 press release, NPC deplored "Namfrel's leaders, particularly that old man, Jose Concepcion Jr., who always believe that Namfrel has the monopoly to oversee the conduct of an election and perform an unofficial parallel count."

"Nobody loves Concepcion . . . He personifies bigotry and even hypocrisy."

"Namfrel's monster attitude stems primarily from the fact that no organization dared to challenge its primacy when it comes to performing watchdog functions. It has always been Comelec's citizens' arm. It is so used to get all the credit," the NPC said.

Trending

In a background paper for columnists, NPC said "Namfrel has long been accused of resorting to trending for favored candidates and of failing to complete its count. Its methodology is always suspect. Its leaders are known careerists, who after hogging the limelight for leading Namfrel, will accept government positions, to the utter consternation of its idealistic volunteers."

Concepcion said there was no truth to the NPC's charges.

Namfrel counsel Jose Bernas said they were "not saying 'we're the only ones who can do it.' This is a free country."

"Of course, we're asking for the privilege to be accredited as poll watchdog," Bernas said. "The NPC says they have superior technology. But the most important technology comes in the form of diligence and persistence. Diligence means doing the job right. Persistence is what you need when things go wrong. This is where Namfrel stands out. All things equal, Namfrel stands out."

Puno project?

On allegations that some opposition stalwarts like reelectionist Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile and former Interior Undersecretary Ronaldo Puno were secretly funding the NPC quick count, Antonio said they would "never allow that."

Puno is a brother of opposition senatorial candidate Ricardo Puno, press secretary of disgraced President Joseph Estrada.

"We will be the first to denounce them if they attempt to do such a thing," Del Castillo emphasized. "The NPC is non-partisan."

But some NPC members interviewed for this story said otherwise.

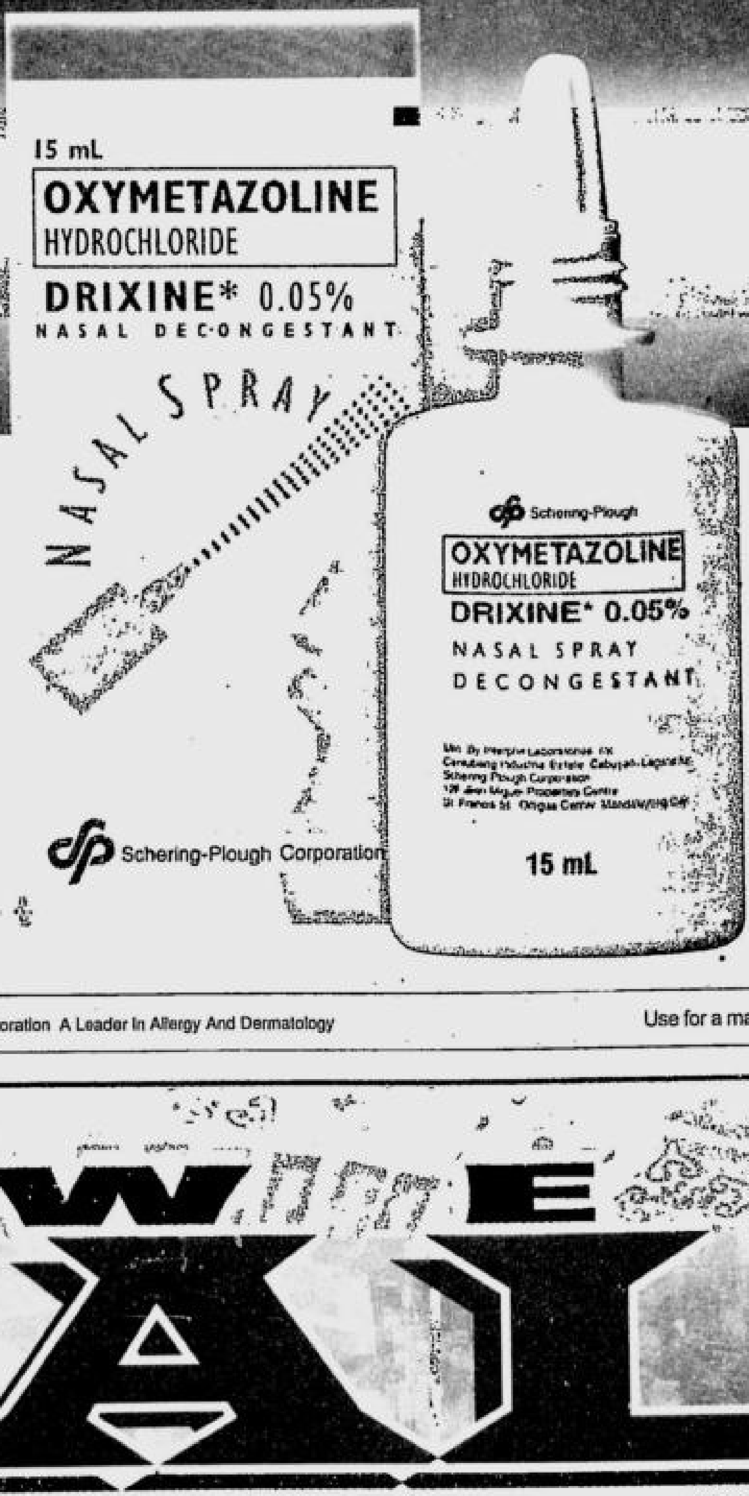
The other day, Bernas had a good laugh when asked about their petition pending before the Comelec.

"Did you know that the NPC petition was like a Xerox copy of the Namfrel petition, that 32 out of 42 paragraphs in the NPC petition were exactly the same as Namfrel's wording?" Bernas told the INQUIRER.

Bernas was right.

Perez admitted that he copied the Namfrel petition. "What's wrong with that? I'm not a lawyer and I was in a hurry. I used the Namfrel petition as a pattern."

In the Namfrel petition, Bernas pointed out they "used Operation Quick Count as project name. The NPC used the same name, which, by the way, is not generic because the law says unofficial count. They should be ashamed of themselves." *(To be concluded tomorrow)*



1 dose
+ 2 applications a day
12 hours relief from clogged nose

Drixine gives you the right formula that costs lesser in the long run. The only miscalculation you can make is to use a cheaper brand that gives shorter relief.

OXYMETAZOLINE HYDROCHLORIDE
DRIXINE
The solution for longer relief

Schering-Plough Corporation A Leader In Allergy And Dermatology

Use for a maximum of one week. If symptoms persist, consult your doctor.

CONSTRUCTION WEEK SALE

March 10 to 18

MAIN SHOWROOM: 1064 EDSA MUNOZ, Q.C. Tels. 926-1504, 921-3342 E-mail: wilcon@wilcon.com.ph
BRANCHES: ***QUEZON AVE. BRANCH:*** 24 Quezon Ave. between Banawe and D. Tuazon, Quezon City Tels. 711-4105, 712-3673, 712-3627, 743-8147 to 49, 742-8144 Fax: 711-4120 • ***EDSA ORTIGAS BRANCH:*** 199 EDSA nr. cor. Ortigas Ave. Mandaluyong, City Tels. 725-0218, 726-0573, 726-5603 Fax: 725-0292 • ***PASAY BRANCH:*** No. 16 C. Jose St., cor EDSA, Malibay, Pasay City Tels. 551-7447, 551 7574, 551-7631, 551-7635 Fax: 832-0242 • ***MAKATI BRANCH:*** Unit 128, Anson's Arcade, Pasay Road, Makati City Tels. 812-9707, 812-9709, 894-0569 Fax: 812-9708 • ***MINDANAO AVE. BRANCH:*** 143 WBS Bldg., Mindanao Ave., Bahay Toro, District 1, Quezon City Tels. 454-9709, 454-9710, 951-5596 • ***LAS PIÑAS BRANCH:*** Alabang-Zapote Road, Almanza Uno, Las Piñas City Tels. 807-8178, 807-8206, 807-8218, 807-8296 Fax: 807-8233 • ***PASONG TAMO BRANCH:*** 2212 Pasong Tamo, beside Cityland Tower, Infront of Don Bosco Chapel, Makati City Tels. 893-3142, 893-3127, 893-3172, 893-3161, 893-3148 Fax: 893-3108 • ***LIBIS BRANCH:*** Lot 35-B, Block 11, Acropolis Green Village E. Rodriguez Jr. Bagumbayan, Quezon City Tel Nos.: 637-5623, 637-2305

WILCON
BUILDER'S SUPPLY, INC.
HOME OF QUALITY BUILDING MATERIALS

RECYCLED NEWSPRINT • ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY • 100% soy ink •

OPINION

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph **website:** http://www.inquirer.net

EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding Chairman

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Vol. 16 No. 91
ISSN 0116-2642

ISAGANI YAMBOT
Publisher

LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Editor in Chief

JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Managing Editor

ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
Associate Editor

ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.
News Editor

NILO B. PAUROM
Assistant News Editor

PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
National Editor

GERRY LIRIO
City Editor

JORGE V. ARUTA
Opinion Editor

ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
Senior Deskperson

AMANDO DORONILA
Editorial Consultant

MARIXI R. PRIETO
Board Chairman

ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
President

RENATO R. REINOSO
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing

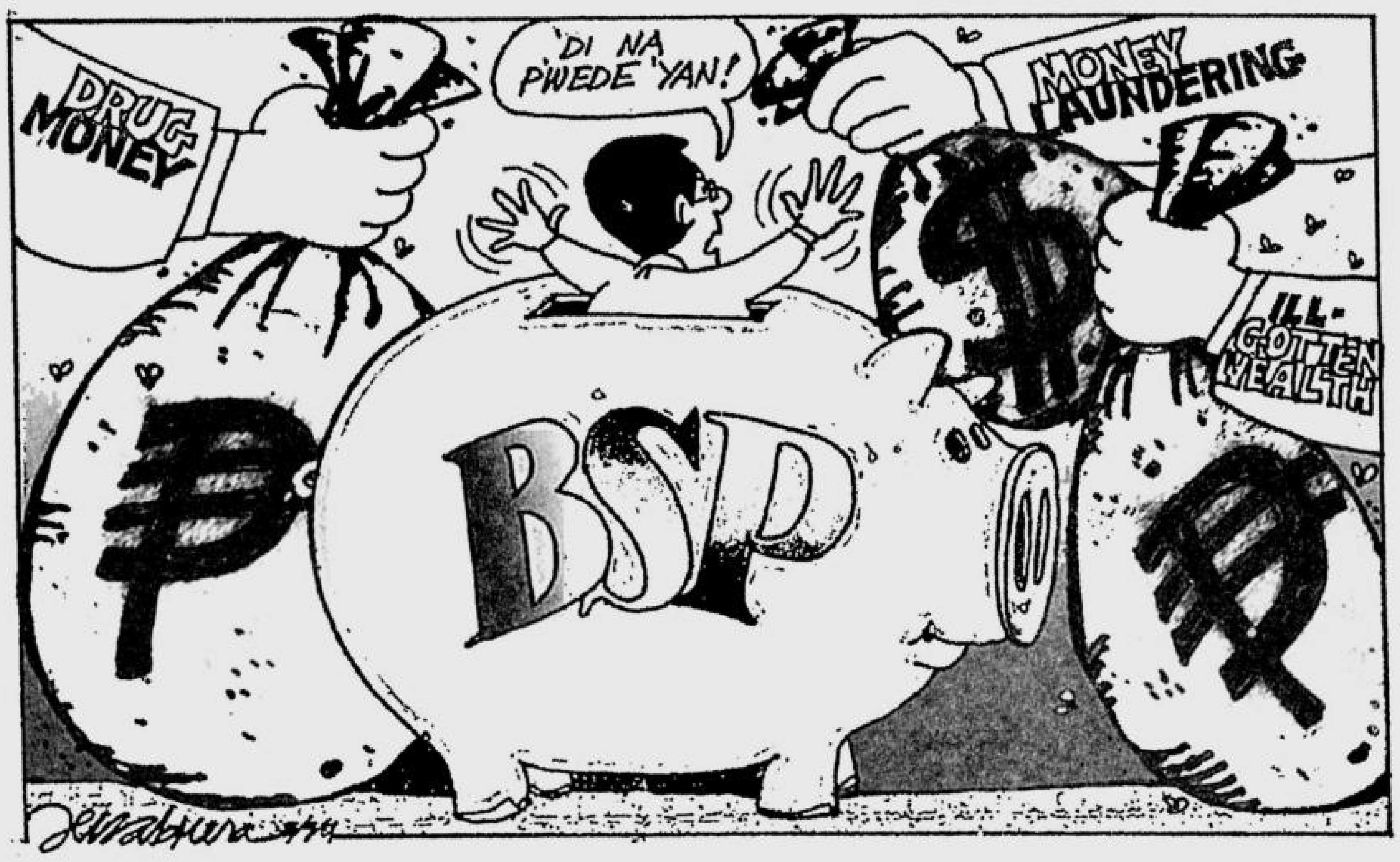
DAVID O. VALDES
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services

FELIPE R. OLARTE
VP for Advertising

GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL
AVP for Circulation

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati • P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office, 1263 Makati City, Philippines • Our new telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments; Editorial Fax 897-4793, 897-4704; Advertising 897-4807; Circulation 527-33-42, 527-33-46, 528-01-83, 528-01-86 and 528-02-13, Fax: 528-02-34.

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.



Reversal of fortune

EDITORIAL

POOR Joseph Estrada. Now that he is no longer in Malacañang, all he can offer his narrowing circle of friends who drop by for a visit is Chateau Margaux. If a wage earner in Metro Manila, earning P250 a day, has to work 12 days to be able to buy a bottle of that red wine, that still doesn't come close to what Estrada's favorite wines cost. Cheval Blanc is priced at about P30,000 a bottle and Chateau Petrus, P60,000, and they were what Estrada used to imbibe during those famous drinking parties he had with his midnight Cabinet. But then, of course, Estrada didn't have to pay for the wine. Being the President, he didn't lack for friends who supplied his every need, expensive wines included—and boxes of them, too.

The reversal of fortune is all too clear even to Estrada, according to a recent visitor to his house on Polk Street in San Juan. "No one gifts us with red wine anymore," Estrada was said to have explained apologetically why Cheval Blanc or Petrus was no longer being served at his table.

Going without the best wines should be the least of his problems, however. For unless Estrada is getting wrong advice from his lawyers, he should be really worrying about his old friends and the things they are taking to the Department of Justice and the Office of the Ombudsman. Since he was driven out of Malacañang by an angry Filipino people, these friends of his have been making a beeline to the offices of government prosecutors eager to tell their own story of corruption during the Estrada administration.

First to catch the ear of Justice Secretary Hernando Perez was Mark Jimenez, the former presidential adviser on Latin American affairs whom Estrada hailed as a "corporate genius" when critics started to picture him as a wheeler-dealer. Jimenez said in a sworn statement that he issued 10 checks to Estrada, worth a total of P346 million, from December 1998 to August 2000. One check for P126 million was Estrada's advance commission for the merger of Equitable Bank and PCI Bank, brokered by Jimenez, while the rest were either for loans that Estrada never paid or outright extortion money. Jimenez is the subject of an extradition request from the US government which has accused him of fraud, illegal campaign contributions and other crimes.

More recently, two Estrada appointees as heads of government financial institutions came forward with their own revelations of Estrada's illegal financial transactions. Carlos Arellano, a boyhood friend of the deposed president and former chair of the Social Security System, detailed how Estrada ordered him to buy a huge chunk of shares in Belle Corp. which is engaged in property development as well as gambling. Arellano said Estrada discussed the deal with him at least three times in 1999.

Federico Pascual, former president of the Government Service Insurance System, had a similar story of how Estrada kept pressuring him to invest some GSIS funds in Belle Corp. Pascual said that personally he would not have touched Belle since it was perceived to have "a speculative flavor," but Estrada ordered him to do it.

The two government corporations ended up buying more than 447 million shares worth P1.8 billion.

Why did Estrada pressure the heads of the two institutions handling pension funds to invest in a private company? Willy Ocier, another friend of Estrada and vice chair of Belle Corp., provided the answer. Ocier said Jaime Dichaves, another Estrada crony, told him the sale would be consummated if he gave Estrada a commission. So Ocier gave Dichaves a check for P189.7 million on Nov. 3, 1999 and the latter handed it to Estrada. The check was later deposited in the "Jose Velarde" account at Equitable PCI Bank.

Now the sworn testimony of Arellano, Pascual and Ocier will be the basis for the filing of the eighth case against the former president. And with all the witnesses corroborating each other, it looks stronger than any of the earlier cases the DOJ and the Ombudsman are preparing against Estrada. With the case so tightly sewn up, even Ombudsman Aniano Desierto would have great difficulty losing it.

Estrada may be putting up a brave front, campaigning for his wife and loyal followers and vowing never to leave the country. But he would be a fool not to worry. It's not just his wine and his women that he stands to lose in court, it is his life. The noose is tightening around his neck. And it is his old friends who are helping the hangman in a bid to save their own necks.

Quezon Avenue trees saved; environment wins this time

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

I AM happy to report that all 192 trees originally scheduled to be cut to give way to the Edsa-Quezon Avenue Interchange in Quezon City will finally be saved. A Memorandum of Agreement was signed last Tuesday among Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong; Acting Secretary Joemari Gerochi of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources; Rep. Heherson Alvarez, chair of Globe Philippines; Dr. Alejandro Roces of the Earthsavers Movement; and Rebecca N. Tañada and Domingo Q. Cayosa of the NGOs for Integrated Protected Areas Inc. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo was in attendance. (The signing was originally scheduled at the Department of Public Works and Highways office in Port Area, Manila, but was moved to Malacañang at the request of Ms Macapagal.)

Under the agreement and modified plans for the interchange, the two lines of trees on both sides of Quezon Avenue would be retained. New service roads would be cut through government land beyond the tree lines. ("As I See It," PDI, 3/6/01) No trees will be cut. Instead, trees that will not be retained will be balled. This involves the careful excavation of the root system of the trees and wrapping them with the soil in burlap sacks ready for transplantation.

They will be transplanted in four mini-parks to be established at the four corners of the interchange. The rest will be put up for adoption and distributed to parks, private establishments and other priority locations. A total of 440 trees of various species will be balled and transplanted.

President Macapagal said the agreement is the signal for a shift in government policies regarding infrastructure. From hereon, the government will put into consideration environmental factors in its infrastructure development programs.

Secretary Datumanong assured the audience that "not a single tree will be murdered." He said the thinking in the DPWH "will no longer be a tunnel vision of just construction as has been its primary focus, but with this government-NGO partnership of institutionalizing a multi-sectoral environmental monitoring voluntary complement, this will guarantee a model of integrating ecological concerns in the planning and execution of DPWH construction projects."

This change in thinking and policy should save not only the Quezon Avenue trees but also other trees in the way of public and private construction projects. I make special mention of the centuries-old acacia trees at the back of the Diliman campus of the University of the Philippines which are in the middle of the C-5 Extension.

These majestic trees were about to be chainsawed by the contractor of the C-5 to give way to the road widening (and to sell the wood to sculptors and furniture-makers) when environmental NGOs and Malang's Saturday Group of artists intervened to save them. It was not necessary to cut the trees because they can be the center island of the widened C-5. Widening can be undertaken on the other side, on the Balara-MWSS compounds.

Construction of the C-5 has been temporarily suspended but that does not mean the acacia trees are safe. When work is resumed, the contractor can quickly cut them down before anybody realizes what is happening (there is so much money in the sale of the wood). With the new government policy on infrastructures forged in Malacañang, however, the DPWH and the contractor will have to answer dearly for such action.

I think our architectural and engineering schools, as well as their professional associations, should incorporate respect for the environment in their curriculum and practice. Decades ago, Frank Lloyd Wright was already including the environment in his architectural plans, most notably in his famous "Falling Waters." But our architects and engineers think nothing of bulldozing everything in the path of their projects because that is the easiest and cheapest way to do it. It would be a beautiful touch to include a big tree in the plans of a house, perhaps building the living room around it where it would be an interesting decoration and conversation piece, but most Filipino builders would simply just cut it down.

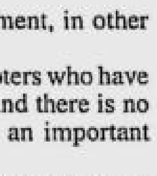
Even landscape architects sometimes do this. A friend hired a landscape architect to design her small garden which has a medium-sized narra tree. His first recommendation was to cut down the tree when it could have been the focal point of the garden. My friend promptly dismissed him.

In other countries, when roads run into trees, engineers make the roads go around the trees instead of cutting them down. They make the roads more scenic. California has plenty of beautiful highways that wind around groves of trees. One tourist attraction is a giant Sequoia right in the middle of the highway. Instead of cutting the tree down, the engineers bore a huge hole through the trunk for the vehicles to pass through.

Filipino land developers instinctively flatten the whole development area before even plotting the roads when the residential subdivision would have been more beautiful if the roads wind through the existing trees. Shoemart Fairview was built in a former mango orchard. Instead of retaining the trees in the parking lot that would have shaded the parked vehicles, the contractor mowed them all down because that was the easiest and cheapest method to pave the parking lot.

The theory of 'relativity'

WINDMILLS



Jerry Barican

FORMER SEN. Jovito Salonga has urged President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to take decisive action to end the proliferation of political dynasties in the country. Despite a constitutional provision discouraging them since 1988 and despite term limits, the practice of family members making a career out of office-holding remains well entrenched in the Philippines. This is "relativity," Philippine-style.

Just look around. Wives or children succeed husbands or fathers once term limits force them to take a sabbatical. Despite all the rhetoric and prohibitions, the practice has grown worse than when it was first described decades back. Some might even argue that Ms Macapagal is our first dynastic presidential heir in our history.

But what are all these anti-dynasty proposals really supposed to achieve when we look closely at them? Will replacing one politician with another belonging to a different family instead of with a relative really change anything? Probably not. There has been no empirical evidence to show that, as a class, relatives in politics are necessarily better or worse than anybody else. To the contrary, the general experience with traditional politicians, whether dynastic or not, has not been encouraging. It has been an even but riotous playing field of mediocrity.

There is also an argument to be made that in a democracy, voters should be permitted the sovereign choice and not restricted from voting for whomever they want. If the American voters want George W. Bush, who is there to say he shouldn't be president, or congressman, only because his father was there before him?

Dynasties are no more a problem than show biz, sports, or media personalities running for office might be. They are symptoms of a more fundamental crisis in our politics and it is futile to address these rather than the crisis itself.

The long-term solution to these problems is a better-educated voter. That in turn requires a stronger economy that can provide the resources for improving education. But corrupt and incompetent politicians discourage investors and economic growth, bringing the problem full circle.

An easier way out of this conundrum may be to address it peripherally. Clean politics will improve the quality of persons elected as well as that of the decisions they make. The first priority therefore of those who want fundamental change is to reform the money politics that is at the root of our political culture.

That can be done by legislation. Rules on raising money and reporting it can be tightened considerably. The sources and uses of campaign funds can be made genuinely transparent. Access to media can be improved by further liberalizing the rules on campaign advertising.

Taking this tack is a far better approach than merely relying on non-governmental organizations to check political abuses through the party list system. There are two limitations to that. The first is that their effectiveness has been marginal at best. In Congress, they have had only a limited effect in changing the culture there; in local politics, their influence is almost non-existent a decade and a half after Edsa I. The second limitation is that giving NGOs ever-larger roles sidesteps the question of democracy. Directly elected leaders can make a claim to popular legitimacy that indirectly—or non-elected ones—simply cannot.

But the real way to change the political culture would be, as expressed by the President, to replace personal politics with the politics of issues, ideology and parties. The easiest way to do that would be to encourage collective rather than personal responsibility in government, in other words, the parliamentary system.

That is a leap too far for most voters who have no familiarity with that system. And there is no clamor or even support for such an important constitutional change.

For the moment then, public discussion and debate are the first tentative steps possible on the road to any potential change. Unfortunately in politics, as in many things, we Filipinos cannot see the forest for the trees. If anything, we are more interested in the leaves. Gossip is always more intriguing than structures.

It may also be a good idea to return to the old practice of limited session days of the Congress. The current year-round sessions sap the executive ability and promote meddling by legislators in the economy and in the bureaucracy. Just as discretion should be reduced in the bureaucracy in order to curtail corruption, power needs to be tamed in elected positions to the same purpose. Diminishing power may reduce the incentive for a family to make a career out of politics.

But the local culture is more powerful than any reformer's zeal. For as long as we treat political leaders the same way we treat celebrities, little will probably change in the way we elect our leaders.

Anti-dynasty provisions and term limits may therefore end up counterproductive because they turn our attention away from the more deeply suited reforms needed by our society. Money is the root of the problem. Take away the opportunity for making money and you take away not just dynasties but the motive of individuals to enter politics for anything but ideology or public service. Follow the money.

The place to begin with then is campaign finance reform. But the politicians don't want us to do that. They would much rather we debated dynasties and term limits and such. Don't expect anyone in government to do much about the far more serious matter of campaign finance reform.

Gloria: Teflon for now

COMMENTARY

Leandro V. Coronel

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is untouchable now. No dirt sticks to her, she's Teflon. But how long will her armor remain shiny and impregnable?

US Sen. John McCain, referring to newly installed President George W. Bush, said recently that a president's "maximum influence" occurs during the first six months of a new administration. The press likes to call this period a "honeymoon," when the new officeholder is given maximum leeway by both critics and impartial media, and generally gets his or her way.

Ms Macapagal is enjoying such a period. For now, she can do no wrong in many people's minds. There's maximum tolerance of her actions, words and behavior. But she shouldn't feel too comfortable, this kid-glove treatment never lasts.

The euphoria of Ms Macapagal's ascension to the presidency, the hangover from Edsa II and the public's hope for better times are giving the new President time to set up house. There's been grumbling from critics over some of her choices of Cabinet members and a couple of issues here and there. But on the whole, it's been smooth sailing for Ms Macapagal.

She and those close to her haven't been error-free. Some hubris had attended the first days of the Macapagal presidency, with Ms Macapagal and one or two of her closest minions taking potshots at the humiliated President Joseph Estrada. For example, Ms Macapagal said a couple of times (and still does) that her Cabinet meets during the day, not at midnight, a clear dig at the late start of Erap's workday and his infamous "midnight Cabinet."

Spokesperson Rene Corona likes to sneer, when Erap claims he's still president that people can dream, can't they? This snideness isn't necessary. They've already won, there's no need to kick a guy who's already down. Be magnanimous in victory. Let the judicial courts do what's necessary to make Erap pay for whatever crimes he committed.

Navy chief, Adm. Guillermo Wong, became the messenger whose head got cut off. The Armed Forces chief of staff, Gen. Angelo Reyes, dumped Wong when the latter exposed alleged corruption in the military. The President didn't lift a finger to save the career of the straight-shooting Wong (although now she's appeasing him with an ambassadorship). Reyes summarily retired Wong and chose to side with the admiral's subordinates instead of investigating Wong's charges first. That the President allowed this to happen may boomerang later if a mutinous state of mind takes over the military.

And then there was Ms Macapagal's admission that she had been in talks with various commanders in the military regarding Erap's misgovernance of the country. Then Vice President Macapagal had been professing fidelity to Estrada and his administration, much to the dismay of Erap's critics who saw Ms Macapagal as a *segurista* opportunist. As it turned out, even as Ms Macapagal was swearing her loyalty to the government, she had been in secret talks with military leaders about what to do with Erap.

The official line being peddled is that, as a senior public official, she was merely consulting with military men about the state of the nation. But were the talks authorized by President Estrada? Obviously not. If that's not sedition, then Webster should redefine the word.

And yet, Ms Macapagal has gotten away with these questionable acts. If Erap had behaved in the same way, his critics in the media and in the establishment would have jumped on him with no mercy. Erap was treated with so much disdain by the elite that his most discreet emission of flatulence would have been declared a national crime.

Let's be clear here. Erap, because he was as so *garapal* in his larceny, deserved to be deposed. His lack of finesse in his personal behavior and his public statements didn't endear him with the so-called pillars of society either. No question, Erap was grossly unqualified to be president. And so, like the comedian Rodney Dangerfield, he "didn't get no respect." And no honeymoon with the media and his critics.

In this sense, Ms Macapagal has been lucky. What an understatement. Lucky? Isn't it lucky to gain tenancy in Malacañang without paying for it with blood, sweat and cash? Not a few people resent Ms Macapagal's accession to the presidential palace with the minimum of effort. This resentment is not confined to groups like Sanlakas, which demanded Ms Macapagal's resignation along with Erap's long before Edsa II. Many ordinary Filipinos feel the same way.

Ms Macapagal got to Malacañang through such a route, piggybacking on the people's rage against Estrada, while not necessarily being the people's choice to take over the reins of government. For this reason, Ms Macapagal should serve the people with humility. Already, she shows signs of impatience in public. For example, she cuts off reporters before they can finish their questions. That's not only impolite, it's intimidating.

At her remarks at the Greenhills Walking Club recently, I saw President Macapagal as a more confident woman, a smart politician, a shrewd political operator. I saw a person who likes to be in control, in command. At some point in the baby days of her administration, Ms Macapagal should pause and take stock of her performance so far. If she somehow makes the mistake of imprinting an indelible impression of being too pushy, too impatient and too domineering, she would be in for a surprise.

Ms Macapagal is enjoying her honeymoon. No question, she's many times better than her predecessor. The people are thankful that President Estrada's next-in-line successor was a professional with executive and legislative experience. She's descended from a past president, therefore someone who had imbibed from the fountain of high office and privilege. She's no stranger to the trappings of power.

The people hope this President can steer the ship of state to the right direction. After Edsa II, the people are not willing to risk, or accept, another failed or wrong president. This is why they're willing to give Ms Macapagal as much elbowroom as possible. This is why they're giving her a honeymoon, a time when a misstep here and there is ignored.

Honeymoons are a temporary state of bliss. President Macapagal may be non-stick Gloria for now, but how long will the Teflon last?

Leandro V. Coronel, a former spokesperson of the World Bank, now lives and writes here.

Comelec, Namfrel and the May polls

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

HERE'S food for thought for Rene Saguisag, as well as for the Fortun brothers and their colleagues in the fallen President Erap's defense team, namely Estelito Mendoza, Andres Narvasa, Raul Daza, Jose Flaminiano and Cleofe Verzola. I cite Saguisag and the Fortuns particularly because in the last few days they've insisted in media interviews that their taking on the discredited president as a client was simply in line with the legal dictum that everyone, even someone who is clearly guilty, is entitled to the best defense possible.

From a letter written to The Wall Street Journal and excerpted by the Reader's Digest, this rejoinder from Ross Baker: "It is evident that most lawyers and legal scholars feel that their ethical obligation to put forth their best defence of a client is the highest principle in law. Agreed, it is a high principle. However, should it be a higher principle than what the system is supposed to achieve—namely, justice? Of course not. If the ethic of a good defence insists on obscuring or hiding truth, it needs to be re-evaluated, because it is then immoral."

* * *

THINGS aren't looking too good for the coming elections in May. First is the delay in the approval of the national budget, including the Commission on Election's budget. While the other government departments could function on last year's budget, the Comelec faces a disaster because last year's budget did not include provisions for the elections. How can the country hold elections without ballots, booths and the money to pay for the services of public school teachers and other poll personnel?

As if that weren't bad enough, the Comelec is at the moment rudderless with the retirement of former Chair Harriet Demetriou and two commissioners. President Macapagal has so far not yet named replacements for the three, allegedly because she's waiting for Congress to go on recess before naming her appointees.

In the meantime, the Comelec is caught in a word war with officers of the National Movement for Free Elections, the citizens' electoral watchdog. The Namfrel once again applied for accreditation with the Comelec last October but it was only on the third week of January when the Comelec, in a 5-2 en banc decision, chose to accredit the Namfrel as its "citizens' arm," but not to conduct an "Operation Quick Count."

The majority decision was supposed to be written by Commissioner Luz Tancangco, a longtime critic of the Namfrel, but that decision has yet to be released, preventing the Namfrel from preparing its formal response to the Comelec.

The latest news is that the Comelec en banc has decided that Tancangco will no longer be required to write the majority decision, but a simple "position paper" instead. The Namfrel will then be asked to respond to the paper in time for a hearing on Feb. 14, Valentine's Day.

* * *

WHY is Tancangco so dead-set against the Namfrel's Operation Quick Count? She bases her objections on a study she conducted of the Namfrel's count during the 1987 elections, released in 1991, where she alleged discrepancies or adjustments at various levels, a "highly improbable" fill-up rate for the ballots, and a partial count that had higher totals than the Comelec's final count.

I've listened to Tancangco argue her side on radio and TV, but what she always neglects to mention is that shortly after her study, based on the skimpy sample of 14 precincts (out of 100,000), was released, a panel of colleagues in the UP slammed both its methodology and conclusions.

Jose Encarnacion, then the dean of the UP School of Economics, said "Much of the discussion in this paper strikes me as just funny (because the reasoning is so queer), and since it is not meant to be a humorous piece but a serious academic study, I have to conclude that this paper is simply an incompetent treatment of the subject."

Dr. Cynthia Bautista, now the director of the Center for Integrative Development Studies, wrote that "What is bothersome about the report is the extent with which it estimates the fraud to be at least two million...The two million votes arrived at by computing the total discrepancy in the 14 precincts and multiplying this by the 100,000 precincts all over the country is based on basic assumptions about how people voted in the past."

Mahar Mangahas, president of the Social Weather Stations, observed that "For the number of persons who voted to be greater than the number of votes cast for the House (of) Representatives is not a numerical anomaly in the first place, but (Tancangco) refuses to accept this point..." He likewise cited Tancangco's "tendency to leap to sensationalistic statements across chasms of inconclusive evidence."

* * *

AFTER BEING brought up short by respected figures in the same university where she taught, one would think Tancangco would at least have felt humbled and chastised. But no, all she had to say afterwards was: "My methodology may have been faulty, but I stand by my conclusions."

While many in the UP were calling for her sacking because of her blatant violations of academic standards and ethics, her home college chose to send her abroad instead for "further studies." A protégée of then UP College of Public Administration Dean Raul de Guzman, who is of course the brother-in-law of former President Erap and chair of the Erap Muslim Youth Foundation, she was coddled and protected upon her return and until her appointment to the Comelec. Once in the poll body, Tancangco commenced to wreak havoc, starting with the scandalous decision on the party-list elections (a decision subsequently slapped down by the Supreme Court) and following that by refusing to act on the computerization program, which by law was supposed to be implemented in full this year, and now her word war with the Namfrel.

So is Tancangco's vehement stance against Namfrel truly the fruit of judicious and considered study, or the mere vendetta of a woman scorned for being shown up to be the flawed scholar and thinker that she is?

Revisiting Cebu

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

OVER THE WEEKEND I played tourist guide and history teacher to *balikbayan* doctors Rene and Susan Raymundo on their first trip to Cebu and Bohol. I took the opportunity to reciprocate for their warm hospitality last December when winter began and I had second thoughts about seeing more of Detroit other than the interior of the airport. What began as a task soon turned enjoyable and gave me fresh insights into the way history is constantly being written in the land placed on the historical map by Lapu-Lapu and Magellan.

I have happy memories of childhood summers spent in Cebu when the Marcelo Fernan Bridge was but a dream. In those days visitors to Cebu landed in Mactan and took a 30-minute ferry trip to Mandaue. Present-day Cebuanos hardly remember when cars were loaded into these huge rusty barges, it all seems so simple these days except for that sure sign of progress—traffic. Cebu traffic is sometimes worse than Manila and getting caught in it once made me realize that we should stop using the term "rush hour" because everything is so slow.

Maybe I am growing older but Cebu has lost much of its charm except for *lechon*, mangoes, *danggit*, squid flakes, otap, guitars and shells which can all be acquired in Manila. Walking inside the Ayala and Shoemart malls is like walking in a Manila mall although the language spoken is Cebuano. My trips to Cebu are usually for business—attending a conference, giving a lecture or signing books. Often it is but a transit point for research trips to Bohol which maintains some of the most interesting colonial churches in the Philippines. Revisiting Cebu's tourist attractions was an experience in historiography.

The newest historical site is found in the Parian area and is known as the Heritage Park. In the middle of downtown Cebu is a historical tableau by Eduardo Castrillo that glorifies Spanish Cebu by default. All of the Cebu icons—Magellan, Magellan's Cross, the Santo Niño, Fort San Pedro—are remnants of the Spanish colonial period and these take up about 70 percent of the monument that could have pushed history further back to pre-colonial Cebu or forward from 1898 to the present.

While archaeological artifacts excavated from downtown Cebu are not visually exciting, these 10th to 16th century Chinese and Southeast Asian ceramics prove that Cebuanos were into modest international trade long before Magellan was born. Why give Magellan and Legaspi prominence in the Heritage Park when they are mere footnotes to other Cebuanos who made history after Lapu-Lapu and are worth remembering? Where are Leon Kilat, General Maxilom, Sergio Osmeña and more? Few people know that Jose Rizal's lover, Josephine Bracken, lived in Cebu. Sergio Osmeña Sr. allegedly learned English (and possibly piano too) from Bracken. I should not impose my version of history on Castrillo who is entitled to express his own version in bronze and stone. My only regret is that the impressive Heritage Park could have pushed the parameters of history further back and forward to see the base from which Cebuanos and all Filipinos spring. One reason national identity is so elusive is because history is not being updated or given the attention it deserves. Despite the new data and research of the past 50 years, history remains stagnant and loses its power to make significant changes in our perspective and outlook.

Yet, not all is lost. Magellan's Cross, housed in a kiosk built of local coral stone; between Cebu City Hall and the Shrine of the Santo Niño de Cebu, is now properly marked. As a boy I remember being confused by two or three conflicting historical markers inside the shrine. One (tactfully removed as inaccurate) stated that the famous cross we see in postcards and tourist brochures was the original one erected by Ferdinand Magellan on that site in April 1521. Long before I became a historian I would wonder what happened after the Battle of Mactan that cost Magellan his life. Surely, Magellan's cross would have been hauled down and chopped into firewood. Why would the newly converted Cebuanos keep the cross? They must have thought their own gods were superior to that of the white man killed in Mactan.

If it was planted there in 1521, why does Magellan's Cross look new? To complicate matters further, the cross is allegedly miraculous and grows a few inches every year. Proof of this was that the top of the cross is near the roof of the kiosk. I then calculated, if the cross grew an inch a year then it would have grown over 400 inches since it was erected there. That means the cross should be over 33 feet and would have shot out of the roof of the shrine by now. A more sober marker now states that, "This cross of tindalo wood encases the original cross planted by Ferdinand Magellan on this very site on April 21, 1521." While I can suspend disbelief and presume that part of the original Magellan's cross is inside this tourist attraction, I cannot reconcile this with the textbook image of Magellan planting the cross on the beach where he landed. Magellan's Cross is inland. Sometimes I wish I could shut off being a historian and just take all that tourism has to give, but then my latest trip to Cebu was both a personal and professional pilgrimage.

* * *

Comments are welcome at ambeth@admu.edu.ph

Cancel the Pulupandan midnight ECC

COMMENTARY

Romana P. del los Reyes
Institute on Church and Social Issues

LAST March 2, Greenpeace activists unfurled banners demanding "Clean Energy Now" and "Save Pulupandan" at the compound of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. One aim of their action was to express support to the demand of the Negrosanons that the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) granted to the Pulupandan coal-fired power project be revoked.

The ECC for the Pulupandan project indicates that it was signed by former Environment Secretary Antonio Cerilles on Dec. 28, 2000. However, the issuance of this ECC became public only on Jan. 31, 2001. On that day, DENR sources quickly said that the issuance was irregular because the project documents and ECC application did not go through the regular procedures; these did not even pass the desk of the technical assistant of the Office of the Environment Secretary who should have reviewed the documents. They added that DENR records would attest that the ECC application was submitted to the secretary's office only during the height of the People Power II protest rallies.

Allegations of the DENR sources were confirmed during the Greenpeace protest action at the DENR. During their dialogue with OIC-Secretary Joemari Gerochi, the Greenpeace activists asked for and were provided with a computer printout of the DENR document tracking system on the Pulupandan project. The printout showed that the ECC application was received by the secretary's office from Environmental Management Bureau Director Peter Abaya on Jan. 19, 2001. As such, Cerilles could not have signed the ECC on Dec. 28, 2000. The document tracking printout further shows that the ECC was released to the EMB only on Feb. 6, 2001. Under existing procedure and practice, the EMB received only a photocopy of the ECC. The EMB could not tell and could not show any record indicating when the original ECC was transmitted to the proponents of the project. The absence of this record further confirms the irregular manner in which the ECC was signed and released.

The covert signing of the ECC completed the effort of principals associated with the Estrada administration to ram down the throats of the Negrosanons the Pulupandan coal-fired power plant. It is publicly known in Negros Occidental that whenever Cerilles visited the province he would trek to Hacienda Balbina, the home of the Cojuangcos. Rep. Charlie Cojuangco of the Fourth District of Negros Occidental is a leading proponent of the coal-fired power project. His support for the project is documented in the project's scoping report, as well as in the project's Environmental Impact Assessment Final Report. Representative Cojuangco even wrote to the Philippine Ports Authority to endorse the project's proposed port facility, despite the opposition of the PPA Project Development Department to the establishment of this facility within the Pulupandan Port Zone Delineation. Another principal supporter of the project is Pulupandan Mayor Antonio Suatengco who is a cousin of Representative Cojaungco. Family members of Suatengco own the 23-hectare land where the coal-fired power plant will be located.

The Negrosanons and their NGO supporters are asking the Macapagal administration and the present DENR leadership to revoke the underhanded decision of Cerilles. To begin with, the clandestine issuance of the ECC renders it null and void. Moreover, the ECC should not be granted because vital technical issues on the project have not been resolved and equally important, the project does not have social acceptability.

There are several unresolved technical issues on the project, but suffice it to cite here only three. One, the project the EIA indicates that the project site has unstable soil condition and subject to liquefaction. Moreover, DENR Region 6 issued a certification that the project site is an environmentally critical area, specifically, that it is flood prone. Yet, despite the repeated requests of the opposers to the project, the EMB has not ordered the project proponents to undertake an engineering, geological and geo-hazard assessment (EGGA) of the project site, as required by DENR Administrative Order 2000-28. Second, the project EIA indicates that the Pulupandan waters already have elevated concentrations of lead, cadmium and hexavalent chromium exceeding current Philippine standards. Yet, no discussions or plans have been made to address this toxic waste problem and to assess how the emissions and wastes of the proposed coal plant will aggravate the toxic waste problem of Pulupandan, which is a very small town of 2,301 hectares. And third, the DENR recognizes that Pulupandan has very limited fresh water supply, hence, it does not allow the use of Pulupandan water for project construction. Yet, no discussions or plans have been put forward on where and how the coal-fired power project would source its fresh water needs both for construction and operation.

The Negrosanons have been rejecting this project since 1997. Before the project was proposed in Pulupandan, it had been rejected in its first two identified sites, Bago City and Silay City. The councils of both cities issued resolutions expressing their rejection of the project. About 20,000 Bago residents even joined their officials in a protest rally to show their opposition to the project. Talisay City, which is adjacent to Silay, also formally rejected the project through a City Council resolution. Moreover, many businessmen and women in Bacolod City have publicly expressed their opposition and many of them are signatories to the position paper of the Negrosanons against the coal-fired power plant.

Only the Pulupandan officials have accepted the project. However, this acceptance is disputable considering that Suatengco's family owns the project site. Moreover, the majority of the Pulupandanons have been vocal in their opposition to the project and has put in writing their opposition. In 1998, for instance, 12,333 Pulupandanons affixed their signatures to opposition statements on the project. In 1999 and up to March 2000, the opposition signature campaign solicited 13,045 signatures. The signatures from the town's 20 barangays totaled 9,845, while the signatures from 48 groups and organizations totaled 3,200. Signatures were solicited from high school students upwards. Thus, even if only the barangay signatures were considered, the opposers represented 61 percent of the Pulupandan population aged 15 years old and above. The percentage of opposers could be higher, however, because most of those who signed the organization position papers did not sign the barangay position papers.

Moreover, in the Fourth District of Negros Occidental, not only the Pulupandanons are rejecting this project. The officials and residents of the neighboring towns and cities have been vehemently opposing it. Thus, each year since 1997, the Bago City Council has passed a resolution rejecting this project. The town/city councils of Valladolid, San Enrique and La Carlota City have passed their respective resolutions since 1998. Their latest resolutions that express strong opposition to the granting of the ECC and that urge the DENR to revoke this ECC were all passed just this Feb. 21, 2001. Only the town of Pontevedra, the home base of Representative Cojuangco, has not issued its stand on this project.

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Bolstering the growth of political dynasties

WE can only blame our lawmakers for the apparent rise of political dynasties in our country as discussed in the March 1 column of Neal Cruz and the INQUIRER's March 2 editorial on "old politics." Since the ratification of the 1986 Constitution which restored our Congress, our lawmakers have not seriously considered passing a law to implement this constitutional provision on political dynasties. Section 26, Article II of the Constitution is very clear in that, the State prohibits "political dynasties as may be defined by law." In other words, unless a law is passed defining the scope of political dynasties, the said constitutional provision will continue to be a mere scrap of paper and politicians will continue justifying themselves in fielding their wives, children, brothers and sisters into the political ring as there is no law prohibiting them from doing so. Not even a sense of *delicadeza* could prevent them from taking advantage of the lack of a law prohibiting political dynasties. *Kapalmuks* seems to be the rule of the game.

What is worse is that instead of coming up with a law prohibiting political dynasties, our lawmakers even strengthened their establishment in our country when Congress passed Republic Act 9006, otherwise known as the "Fair Election Act of 2001," which was signed into law by President Macapagal on Feb. 12. This law actually deals with the lifting of the political ad ban. However, out of nowhere, its repealing clause provides that Section 67 of the Omnibus Election Code (OEC) is repealed. This section provides that an elective official running for a position other than the one he is presently holding shall be considered automatically resigned from office upon the filing of his certificate of candidacy.

As a consequence of such unexplained "repeal" of Section 67 of the OEC, a mayor running for congressman in the May 14, 2001 election continues to be a mayor until the end of his term. A barangay captain who runs for mayor or another higher position also continues to be barangay captain since the term of a barangay official ends in 2002. The said "repeal" could encourage a politician, say a senator whose term will end in 2004, to run for governor in his province with his wife or relative running as vice governor. If both of them win the election, the senator may not serve as governor and will just let his wife assume the gubernatorial position as he goes back to the Senate since he was not considered resigned as senator when he ran for governor.

Hence, instead of eradicating political dynasties in our country, our lawmakers strengthened their establishment with the sudden and unexplained repeal of Section 67 of the OEC. I wonder if President Macapagal was fully informed of the political implications of such repeal when she signed into law RA 9006. She should have been advised that such "repeal" could backslide us to "old politics" which is clearly contrary to her call for "new politics of constitutional consultation with the people" in her administration.—**ROMULO B. MACALINTAL, 13 Cagayan Valley St., Philamlife Village, Pamplona, Las Piñas City**

LETTERS

Incomprehensible stand

JOSEPH Estrada did not have to resign. He had been ousted by the Filipino people. Not only the people, but even the police and the military withdrew their support from the Estrada administration, and there was simply no way Erap could have remained in Malacañang even if he wanted to.

I am still wondering why my Tito Rene Saguisag, a former spokesperson of Cory Aquino and a veteran of the old parliament of the streets, has become so emotionally and mentally attached to a certified Marcos loyalist like Erap. Saguisag now finds himself on the same side as Ople, Enrile, Honasan versus Tañada, Arroyo and the Filipino people. Sorry, dear uncle, I cannot support you on this issue.—**DAVE TABANIAG, 93 Batino St., Project 3, Quezon City**

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

A few good men

THE OUTGOING AFP chief of staff, Gen. Angelo Reyes, has ordered his men to stop airing dirty linen in public. The AFP's Code of Ethics, he says, considers as one of the most unethical acts "directly or indirectly seeking redress through the use of the tri-media that will destroy the image of the AFP."

Senate President Aquilino Pimentel agrees. The Navy officers, he says, should stop their bickering and mudslinging in public, which is demoralizing the troops. "The top brass of the AFP should set the example in military discipline, but unfortunately, their act of washing dirty linen in public betrays their disregard for the basic rules of discipline."

They were referring to Rear Admiral Guillermo Wong's revelations of irregularities in Navy purchases and Lt. Gen. Edgardo Espinosa's threat to reveal even bigger irregularities in the AFP. A couple of weeks ago, Wong publicly questioned the Marine Corps' procurement of P3.8 million worth of defective Kevlar helmets, disappearance of 72 HK-MP5 assault rifles worth P7.2 million and misuse of P64.9 million intended for the relocation of the Marine Corps' headquarters in Ternate, Cavite.

I can believe Espinosa when he says he has bigger irregularities to expose. Wong's revelations look only like the tip of the iceberg. I myself have heard all sorts of horror stories in this respect dating back to Fidel Ramos' time as AFP chief and later defense chief.

Wong has since been gagged and eased out. I do not know what will happen to Espinosa. But Wong is the officer I have every sympathy for. Above all, because all the reports about him say he is as honest and decent as they come. His only fault, as officers and men of the Marine Corps complain, is that he is too rigid, too much of a ramrod, too lacking in *pakikisama*, to be an effective manager. But if that means he has no tolerance for perfidy, no patience for wrongdoing and cannot abide crooks in the name of esprit de corps, I don't know why it should be considered a weakness at all, least of all a character flaw that impedes good management. I do not believe in people being "honest to a fault." People who say that about other people are normally only rotten to the core.

Wong's being of Chinese descent is another reason why my heart goes out to him. Look what's happened recently to several of them, a "very concerned Chipino" wrote me recently. The accusers have become the accused. Wong has been dismissed, Vina Agarao has been ousted, and Teresita Ang See is about to be sued. All because they dared to accuse some very powerful people of wrongdoing.

Which brings me to Reyes' and Pimentel's complaint. They miss the point completely.

To begin with, can there be anything more breathtakingly ironic than that Reyes should invoke ethics to stop people like Wong from saying their piece publicly? It's a wonder he doesn't choke when he mentions the word. What is truly unethical, that Wong should go to the media to tell tales of officers pillaging his institution, or that officers should actually pillage his institution? What is truly unethical, that Wong should expose his institution's dirty linen in public, or that his fellow officers should soil their institution's linen and leave it lying on the floor?

While being outraged by Wong's conduct, Reyes has been deathly quiet about his allegations. Nowhere has he uttered even the most pro-forma statements about investigating them and punishing the guilty to the full extent of military and civil law. All he sees that is wrong is Wong—and Espinosa—going to the media to tell on their brethren. Of such stuff is the notorious "mistah" system made, a system not unlike the Mafia's concept of brotherhood.

That is the code that says the true crime is not keeping prostitution dens, running a numbers racket, selling drugs and slitting the throats of enemies but telling on a fellow Mafiosi. That is the code that says the true crime is not committing torture and murder, stealing from the soldiers' pension fund or sending them to battle with short supplies and substandard weapons, but telling on a fellow "mistah." That is not a code of ethics, that is the code of "omerta."

Should Wong and Espinosa have gone to the normal channels to get redress? Only in the same way that Chavit Singson should have done so. You're accusing your own superiors of corruption in an institution dedicated to secrecy and defending its own, you'd be a fool, or a suicidal maniac, to do so. Had Chavit followed that code of ethics, Erap would still be president. And Chavit, well, he wouldn't be around to enjoy the ethical life.

"Bickering" is quarreling over petty things. Accusing one's superiors of pilfering millions is indicting. Why should it indicate lack of discipline and demoralize the troops? I should think Wong showed true grit in doing what he did, which should be a source of inspiration for the troops.

I remember a similar case several months ago. A group of Filipinos in Singapore complained of several episodes of "The Probe Team"—dealing with pedophilia, fraternity hazing and Metro Manila's garbage problem—as holding up a bad picture of the Philippines and being a source of embarrassment for Filipinos abroad. I said that "The Probe Team" was not a tourist program, and that if the Filipinos in Singapore wanted a feel-good look at their home country, they should lobby as well for the showing of Lakbay TV there. It was "The Probe Team's" business to tell the truth as best it saw it, which included the bad with the good, the horrific with the uplifting. I've always thought when abroad that one of the things I could be proud of was that I came from a country that had a free press.

The same principle applies here. Only the lowlife in the AFP can possibly feel demoralized by what Wong did. The honest and the decent—and I believe Commander Jose Renan Suarez when he says there are many of them in his favorite institution, toiling quietly and with pride—can only applaud it. The thought that there are still people like Wong who will risk their careers and the ire of their "mistahs" to do what is right can only be an inspiration to them. You call it cowardice, and the AFP would do well to breed more cowards. You call it lack of discipline, and the AFP would do well to breed more anarchists.

There's only one true code of ethics, and that's the one that tells you to live honorably. As Emile Zola pointed out long ago in the Dreyfus affair, where the military tried to persecute an officer presumably to save the honor of the institution, there's nothing honorable in doing wrong in the name of honor.

GREAT SAVINGS ON CAMPING GEARS!

ACE®

PROMO PERIOD: MARCH 9 TO 31, 2001

igloo
Wheelie Cool Ice Chest Combo
8104291
- Ultratherm Insulation
- Tow & Carry Handles
- 35.9 Liters

P1,195
BEFORE: P 1,799.75

Outrageous Bargain of the Month!

Coleman Kids
GI Canteen
- Durable Plastic
- No Metallic Taste
- Keeps Liquid Cool

P195
BEFORE: P 249.75

Coleman Kids
Push & Pull Light
- Rugged & Durable
- Convenient Belt Clip & Carry Strap

P195
BEFORE: P 249.75

DIETZ
Kerosene Lantern
- Portable
- Heavy Duty

P295
BEFORE: P 349.75

SONCA
Krypton Lantern
- Weather Proof
- Adjustable Focus

P350
BEFORE: P 424.75

EVEREADY
Waterproof & Floating Lantern
- All Weather Use
- Shatterproof Lens
- Impact Resistant

P395
BEFORE: P 499.75

Camping SALE

CAMPINGAZ
Twister Stove
- Compact
- Automatic Ignition

P1,095
BEFORE: P 1,249.75

MOTOROLA
Talkabout 2-Way Radio
T289
- 3.2 KM Range
- Voice Activated
- 14 Channels
- Weighs only 170.1 g.

P5,495
BEFORE: P 6,999.75
Not available in Cebu & Iloilo

Iwatani
Portable Butane Gas Stove
- Built-in Pressure Sensor
- Safety Stop Mechanism

P950
BEFORE: P 1,199.75

ACADEMY BROADWAY
Dome Tent
10035
- Sleeps 2 persons
- Fire Retardant
- Heavy Duty

P995
BEFORE: P 1,499.75

ACADEMY BROADWAY
Canopy
10800
- Fire Retardant
- Heavy Duty
- 3.2 x 3.2 x 2.48 m

P2,995
BEFORE: P 3,999.75

FIRST ASCENT
Sleeping Bag
21940
- Water Repellent
- Machine Washable
- 83.82 x 190.5 cm.

P1,195
BEFORE: P 1,499.75

Visit us at ACE® Hardware

Per DTI-NCR Permit No.1682 Series of 2000

SM SOUTHMALL	806-7293	SM MEGAMALL	633-1485	SM CITY FAIRVIEW	417-6761	SM CUBAO	912-5622	SM CITY MANILA	523-7876
FESTIVAL SUPERMALL	850-3910	SM CITY CEBU	(032) 231-7120	SM CITY BACOOR	(046) 970-7824	SM ILOILO	(033) 320-7518	SM CITY PAMPANGA	(045) 961-6847

The WORLD

MARGOT J. BATERINA, Editor

India's Hindu fundamentalists threaten Muslims over statues

NEW DELHI—India's Hindu fundamentalists threatened on Wednesday to storm the country's main mosque and "teach a lesson" to a top Muslim cleric who justified the destruction of Buddha statues by troops in Afghanistan.

Imam Syed Ahmed Bukhari said he supported the destruction of the statues because it was the Taliban militia's response to the razing of an ancient mosque in northern India by thousands of Hindu zealots in 1992.

India's government has slammed the Taliban move.

The Hindu chauvinist Shiv Sena party, a member of Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's ruling coalition, asked the government to arrest Bukhari.

"The government should send him to Tihar jail in a week, otherwise we will deal with him our way. We will surround the mosque," said Jai Bhagwan Goel, the party's chief for northern India. Tihar is a high security prison in the capital, New Delhi.

Asked whether his party members could sorm the mosque, Goel said: "We will go to any limit to teach him a lesson. We are not responsible for what happens."

The Shiv Sena, which opposes Islam and Western culture, is notorious for its violent campaigns and has earlier targeted India's cricket matches with Pakistan, players accused in a matchfixing scandal, Pakistani singers, and films with lesbian protagonists. It is also accused of provoking several anti-Muslim riots, a charge it denies.

In Afghanistan, the Taliban's reclusive leader Mullah Mohammed Omar has ordered all pre-Islamic statues in the country destroyed, including two towering Buddhas hewn from a cliff face in central Bamiyan in the third and fifth centuries. Their destruction, as well as that of thousands of other relics, has generated international outrage.

"Afghanistan is speaking out in our favor, and the Taliban are absolutely right," Bukhari said in a telephone interview.

"Western countries are also speaking out (against the Taliban). Where were the Western leaders sleeping when the Muslim monument was destroyed?" he said.

Thousands of Hindu fundamentalists razed the 16th century Babri mosque in Ayodhya, a town 550 km east of New Delhi, on Dec. 6, 1992. The destruction sparked riots across India between Hindus and Muslims that killed 2,000 people.

Hindu prayers are now held in a makeshift temple at the site. *AP*

A MADURESE refugee, weakened by long journey, is helped by medics as they arrive by ship at the port of Surabaya in east Java, March 8. Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid toured the riot-torn Borneo island and vowed to reconcile the warring ethnic groups. AP

Wahid tours riot-torn Borneo isle

PALANGKARAYA, Indonesia—Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid yesterday toured Central Kalimantan province where bloody ethnic violence erupted last month leaving hundreds dead.

Wahid met with the provincial governor and other local officials before flying to the town of Sampit, the scene of some of the worst unrest.

He said the central government would work to reconcile the warring ethnic groups with the aim of repatriating the tens of thousands of people who have fled.

"If it is possible they should return," Wahid said. "If it is not, they should be relocated."

More than 450 people, mostly Madurese, were killed during a campaign by indigenous Dayaks to rid the province of migrants. Many of the victims were beheaded or mutilated in the slaughter, which began on Feb. 18. Indonesian security forces did little to stop the killings.

More than 70,000 settlers or descendants of settlers have been evacuated, mostly to their home island of Madura.

Security was tight throughout Kalimantan for the president's visit. Police said they had found nine homemade bombs in empty houses belonging to Madurese on the outskirts of the provincial capital Palangkaraya, raising fears of fresh unrest.

In downtown Sampit, a Dayak mob torched an abandoned house early yesterday, witnesses said. Similar acts of arson were reported elsewhere in the region.

Wahid left for the province on the island of Borneo just hours after arriving back in Jakarta after a 15-day overseas trip to Africa and the Middle East.

Critics have slammed the president for refusing to cut short his tour to handle the violence. Calls for his dismissal have intensified in his absence.

Wahid told reporters on his way back to Indonesia late Wednesday that if he stepped down there would be chaos and several provinces would secede from Indonesia.

"Whatever happens, I must remain president," state news Antara quoted him as saying on the return flight. *AP*

Witness says sub commander one of the best

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii—The captain of the US nuclear submarine which smashed into a Japanese fishing trawler last month while surfacing was one of the US Navy's best submarine commanders, a lead investigator said Wednesday.

Admiral Charles Griffiths had a day earlier criticized Commander Scott Waddle, captain of the USS Greeneville, saying the 41-year-old officer was too busy giving orders to know what was going on Feb. 9, when the surfacing nuclear submarine crashed into the Japanese trawler Ehime Maru.

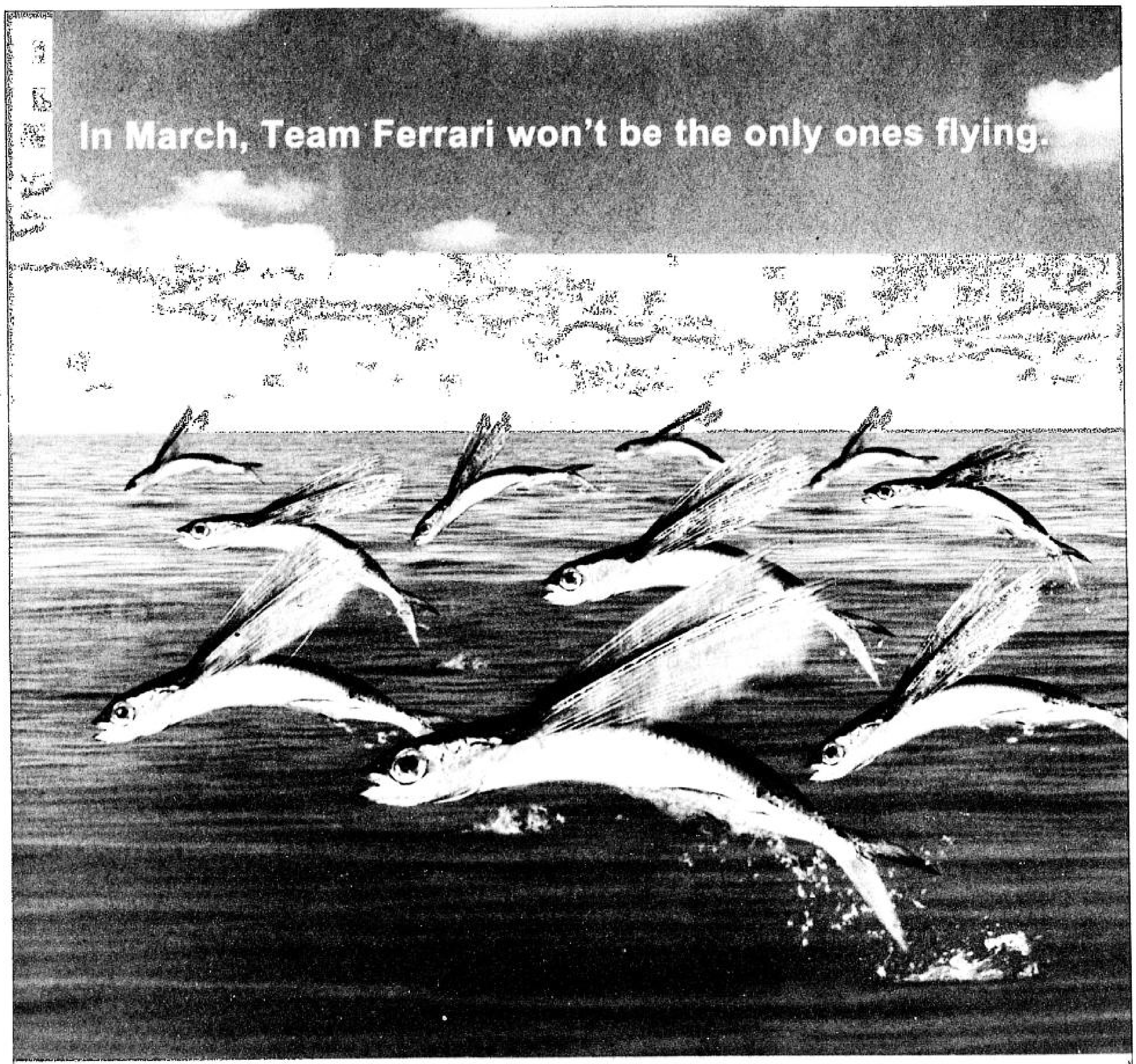
The 6,900-ton submarine was conducting an emergency surfacing maneuver when it slammed the Ehime Maru—carrying a group of Japanese high school fishery students. Nine of the 35 people onboard the boat, including four students, are missing and presumed dead.

The incident has strained US-Japanese relations, and the US Navy is conducting an unusual public inquiry into the disaster.

The inquiry board's findings will be used to determine if the submarine crew will be disciplined for the crash.

Asked if the sub's commander cut corners on safety during cross-examination by Waddle's civilian lawyer Charles Gittens, the admiral quickly replied: "Absolutely not."

He said the Greeneville was tracking two sonar contacts at the time of the collision, making the sub's operation more complicated, but that number was far fewer than the 20 he said a good crew could track simultaneously. *AFP*



Presenting the winners who'll be flying to Malaysia.

LUZON

REYNALDO S. MORALES JR.
San Juan, Calamba, Laguna

EDGARDO S. MASAKAYAN
BF Resort Vill., Las Piñas

REY OBANDO
Tondo, Manila

REYNALDO ORCULLO
Cainta, Rizal

RICO HAOS
Baclaran, Parañaque

JULITA S. CHAN
Nangka, Marikina City

VISAYAS/MINDANAO

RODOLFO BALDEVIA
Quirino Ave., Davao City

MANUEL P. CHUA
Capitol Heights Phase II, Bacolod City

SHELL CITIBANK MASTERCARD

LEONARDO P. FERRER
Fairview, Quezon City

GILBERT M. TABBERRAH
Soldiers Hill, Muntinlupa City

Ferrari Caps

Warren Ong
Rocto Ave., Manila

Rizaldo C. Santiago
Maypajo, Kalookan City

Gerry O. Dumayo
Tandang Sora, Q. C.

Wendell Bernardo
San Mateo, Rizal

Roberto Ong Yang
San Juan, Metro Manila

Roden S. Miramonte
Buting, Pasig City

Polly Molinar
Tanauan, Batangas

Rey P. Rivera
Plainview, Mandaluyong City

Anna Marie Jamias
Mandaue, Cebu

Maritess Bermejo
Mabolo, Cebu

Ferrari Polo Shirts

Susan Quizon
New Manila, Q. C.

Angelito A. Tuazon
Sta. Maria, Bulacan

Alfredo A. Arce
BF Int'l, Las Piñas

Ariel del Rosario
Bagong Pag-asa, Q.C.

Sherlynne Nicole Santiago
Sarmogo St., Q. C.

Normelito C. Caguiat
San Jose, Batangas

Tony Dungca
R&S Subd., Angeles City

Herrera Manuel
Alvarez St., Davao City

Charity S. Bocal
Majon, Kabankalan City

Mary G. Lopez
Victoria Plaza, Davao City

Ferrari Bags

Ma. Kerima Z. Tolentino
Sun Valley, Parañaque

Gerry Escalona
Marikina Heights, Marikina City

Rommel Angeles
NMS, Marikina City

Z. Sta. Cruz
San Antonio, Biñan, Laguna

Joseph Gonzaga
Capitolyo, Pasig City

Cynthia S. Daer
Sampaloc, Manila

Marlito C. Caluza
Commonwealth, Q. C.

Jocelyn T. Bulay
Lanang, Davao City

Carlo Pascual
Ayala Center, Cebu

Arnold Lim
Bo. Obrero, Davao City

How to claim the prizes:

Winners must present either a valid ID with photo, driver's license or passport and proceed to:
Retail Fuels and Brand Department, Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation at Shellhouse, 156 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City, tel. no. (02) 816-6056.
Winners from Visayas and Mindanao may claim their prizes from the Shell installations/depots in their area indicated in the notice.
Winners of the grand draw must claim their prizes immediately, in time for the F1 race in Malaysia. They may not claim their prizes after the event.
Winners of original Ferrari merchandise may claim their prizes until 60 days after receipt of notification letter.

F1 mania in Malaysia 3

Velocity

Shell HELIX

Citibank

Magic 89.9

Per DTI permit no. 0188 series of 2001

Sharon faces unknown as he becomes premier

SHARON

JERUSALEM—Hawk Ariel Sharon starts his first day in office Thursday as Israel's 11th prime minister facing the unknown, extending a hand of peace to Arab neighbors but insisting he will not negotiate with the Palestinians under fire.

The right-wing Likud hardliner, who trounced outgoing premier Ehud Barak just over a month ago pledging to restore security after months of bloodletting, was invested Wednesday at the head of the largest Cabinet in the nation's history after the parliament formally approved his government.

The vote was 72 in favor to 21 against, with no abstentions.

Immediately after the ceremony, the White House announced that Sharon would meet on March 20 in Washington with President George W. Bush, who called the Israeli leader to congratulate him.

"The president looks forward to discussing bilateral and regional issues with Prime Minister Sharon, including ways to bring an end to the violence and to advance peace and stability in the region," said Bush spokesperson Ari Fleischer.

The burly 73-year-old former general, the fifth prime minister in six years, has a majority of at least 73 in the 120-member parliament after clinching deals with a patchwork of leftist, religious and right-wing parties.

The new Cabinet, which contains 26 ministers including Nobel peace prize laureate Shimon Peres as foreign minister, will have to immediately grapple with a Palestinian revolt that has cost more than 430 lives in almost six months.

"The government under my leadership will be committed to doing everything possible to restore security and stability . . . but we will have to go through very difficult days ahead," Sharon said in his investiture speech, appealing for the nation to unite behind him.

Sharon called Jerusalem the Jewish people's "eternal" capital, diverting from his prepared text, which had described it as the "united eternal capital of Israel under our sovereignty."

The fate of the holy city is one of the key sticking points between Israel and the Palestinians, which claim the eastern sector, which Israel captured in war in 1967 as their future capital.

He also called for neighboring foes Syria and Lebanon to make peace, and pledged no new Jewish settlements would be built in the Palestinian territories, while saying nothing about their removal.

Palestinian information minister Yasser Abed Rabbo said Sharon must work to end Israel's near 34-year occupation and stop settlement activity if there is to be peace.

"The continuation of the settlements is the peak of violence. There can be no peace or security or stability with the continuation of settlements," he added. "Our experience is that negotiating in the shadow of the settlements is a futile exercise.

Syria and Lebanon also said that the return of all Israeli-occupied land was the only way to achieve peace. *AFP*

1 Internet Prepaid Card 2 Cool Access

Cool Access 1

GOTCHA!™

Gotcha!™ Internet prepaid cards will give you easy access and high speed digital connections anytime at a very affordable rate! No more hassle of monthly billings.

P200
GOTCHA!
Prepaid Internet Access and more
9 hours
FREE 2WEEKS UNLIMITED ACCESS
I©OLONY
iWeb

Cool Access 2

I©OLONY™

Included in every Gotcha!™ Internet prepaid card, the I©OLONY™ service - a new territory in FREE online computing.

The following FREE services are offered in I©OLONY™: chat, online message board on various interesting topics, software downloads, community e-mail, electronic greeting cards, online games, friend searcher, local/world news headlines, SMS services and more.

JOIN US! ANYONE
CAN BE A *DEALER*!
CALL 323-9911

We are looking for Distributors and Dealers. Hurry! Apply now.

For more information, please visit us at our website
http://www.iweb.ph
or e-mail us at
info@iweb.ph

iWeb™ Corporation

IWEB CORPORATION
208-E Rizal Avenue Extension, Kalookan City, Philippines

Cheney: Having time of my life

WASHINGTON—Vice President Dick Cheney jokingly dismissed speculation Wednesday that his chronic heart disease might force him to quit and said he was having "the time of my life" shaping US policy.

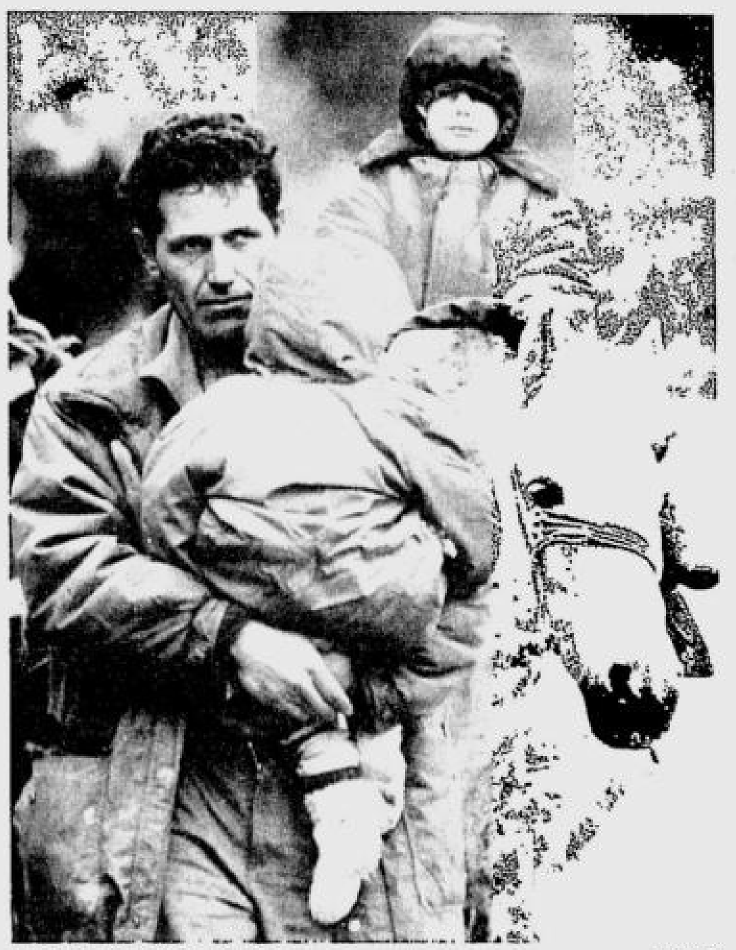
Shouldering a full schedule just two days after chest pains led to a hospital stay and an urgent procedure to reopen a narrowed artery prompted a fresh round of questions about his health, Cheney said: "I'm having the time of my life."

"I've got a job to do. The president asked me to do it. I'll do it as long as he's comfortable having me do it and I feel like I can make a contribution," the US vice president added.

"He was doing jumping jacks today," President George W. Bush joked, adding "he's doing great. He is feeling healthy."

"He told me he'd see me first thing in the morning for our national security briefing, and he was there. He looks good, feels good. And that's good news," Bush told reporters.

Cheney's heavy workday underscored his pivotal role as Bush's top lieutenant: he arrived in the office around 7:30 a.m., received key briefings, met with Bush and South Korean President Kim Dae-jung and later with Republican leaders to discuss how to win approval for Bush's agenda. *AFP*



FLIGHT TO SAFETY REUTERS

An ethnic Albanian carries his child as they walk from their native village of Brest, about 50 km from the capital Skopje, March 7. They have fled fearing escalation of a conflict between Macedonian forces and a shadowy ethnic Albanian armed group operation in the area of the border between Macedonia and Kosovo.

Clinton popularity sags in new poll

WASHINGTON—The popularity of former President Bill Clinton and his wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, has dropped sharply in the past two months amid questions about their exit from the White House and pardons he granted, a poll finds.

The number of Americans who viewed Ms Clinton, a Democrat, in a favorable light dropped from half to a third since January in the NBC-Wall Street Journal poll released Wednesday. The number who viewed her in a negative light increased from a third to half.

She plunged into a flurry of legislative activity this week as the congressional zeal for hearings about the pardons faded. She pushed for reductions in school class size and workplace protections for women, and spoke on the Senate floor on ergonomics and workplace safety.

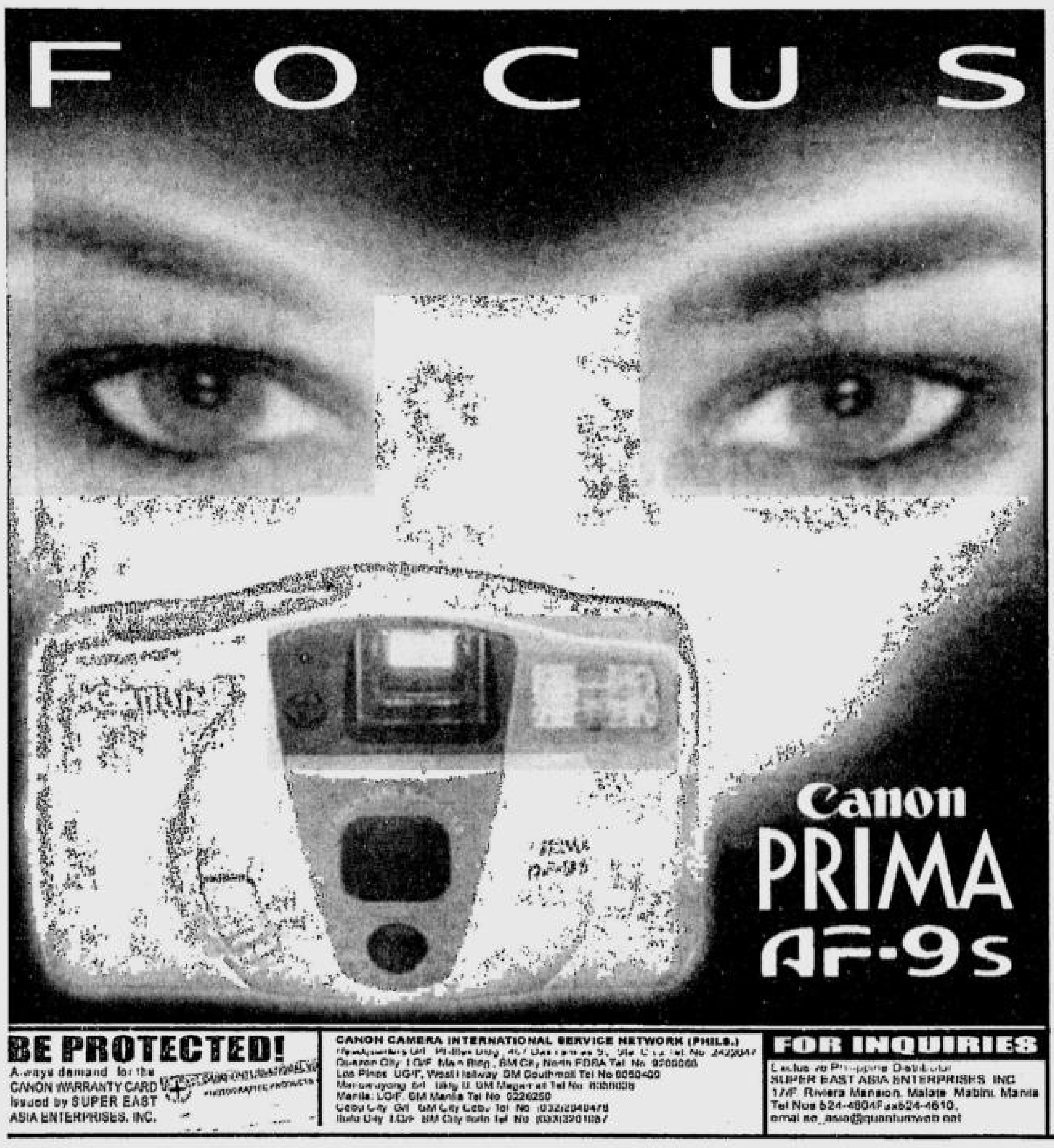
Six in 10 said in the poll that they do not believe her comments that she was not involved in the pardons granted by the former president, although some have alleged that she received financial contributions, support and endorsements because of them. A third believed her.

The former president has seen a similar drop in his public ratings after the furor over his pardons and other controversies over his departure from office.

Just over half, 55 percent, said his actions over the past two months have made them feel less favorable about him. Four of 10 said it made no difference.

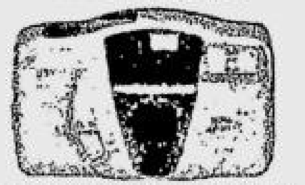
The public shift on the former president over the past two months was strikingly similar to the reaction given his wife. Those who viewed him positively dropped from half to a third and those who saw him negatively went from a third to half.

The poll of 2,024 adults was taken Thursday through Sunday and has an error margin of 2 percentage points. *AP*



AF is Auto-Focus – the eye that promises the sharpest pictures that stay clear even for blow-ups. Designed for easy operations, its large view finder makes you spot your subject with minimum eye-strain. Its extra large LCD panel lets you see your camera's data at a glance. An up-sized main switch & huge shutter button give you better control, letting you click at the exact moment. And an extra strong flash illuminates farther, ranging up to 10 meters reducing the risk of under exposure. All these plus more, in a sleek, matte platinum finish.

The New Canon AF-9
SHARP FOCUS
All the time.



AF-9s P4,350/AF-9 QD P5,550

•auto-focus •fully motorized •3 way flash
•optional date/time input •flash recycling lock
•self-timer •biggest flash •biggest view finder
•biggest shutter button •biggest LCD panel

BE PROTECTED!
Always demand for the CANON WARRANTY CARD issued by SUPER EAST ASIA ENTERPRISES, INC.

CANON CAMERA INTERNATIONAL SERVICE NETWORK (PHILS.)
Headquarters G/F [illegible] Tel No 2422047
Quezon City 1 G/F Main Bldg., SM City North EDSA Tel No 9200066
Las Pinas UG/F, West Hallway SM Southmall Tel No 8050400
Mandaluyong [illegible] SM Megamall Tel No [illegible]
Manila: LG/F, SM Manila Tel No 5226250
Cebu City G/F SM City Cebu Tel No (032)2340478
Iloilo City 1 G/F SM City Iloilo Tel No (033)3201087

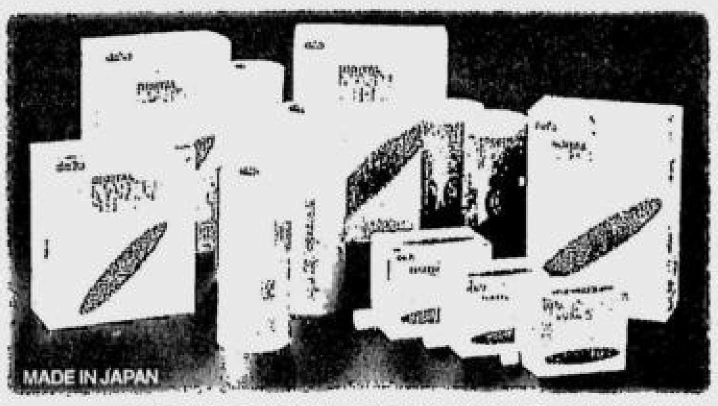
FOR INQUIRIES
Exclusive Philippine Distributor
SUPER EAST ASIA ENTERPRISES INC
17/F Riviera Mansion, Malate Mabini, Manila
Tel Nos 524-4804Fax524-4610,
email se_asia@quantumweb.net

"NEW PRODUCTS"

DAITO

THE BEST QUALITY AND VALUE
FOR YOUR PRINTING AND DUPLICATING

We know you will be satisfied.



for use on: RISO (RISOGRAPH) • RICOH (PRIPORT) • GESTETNER • NASHUA-TEC • REX-ROTARY • DUPLO-Masters only • GAKKEN-Masters only

STOCKS ALSO AVAILABLE:
DAITO STENCIL PAPER #50
DAITO PRINTING INK
CORRECTION FLUID FOR STENCIL
INKJET CARTRIDGES

EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR:
STEVE MANUFACTURING CORPORATION
No. 10 Ligaya Street, Balintawak, Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 365-40-31; 364-21-63; 364-24-50; 363-29-33
Fax No.: (02) 361-72-20

Teener in US shooting charged with murder

SANTEE, California—The 15-year-old suspect in a high school shooting spree was charged with two counts of murder as hundreds of his fellow students returned to campus to find freshly patched bullet holes and grief counselors in every classroom.

Charles Andrew "Andy" Williams, accused of killing two and wounding 13 in a hail of small-caliber pistol fire at 1,900-student Santana High School in suburban San Diego, remained silent throughout the briefing.

"I don't hate him for what he did," said cheerleader Courtney Guthaus. "I just want to know why."

San Diego County Superior Court Judge Herbert J. Exarhos set arraignment for March 26 and denied bail because of special circumstances contained in the indictment. Special circumstances under California law are attached to charges where the alleged criminal was "lying in wait" for his victims.

Charges include two counts of murder with special circumstances, 13 counts of premeditated attempted murder and other counts alleging assault with a deadly weapon and firearms possession.

The boy cannot be given the death penalty because of his age, said prosecutor Kristin Anton. If convicted on all charges he could be sentenced to 500 years imprisonment.

Santana students spent Wednesday talking with teachers, administrators, counselors and each other. There were no immediate plans to resume regular classes. About 150 counselors—some of whom worked at Columbine High School after the blood bath there in 1999, were assigned to the school.

Investigators said Williams was filled with anger when he was arrested and expressed no remorse. Friends have said he was constantly picked on. He was so skinny that some people called him "Anorexic Andy." *AP*

Girl wounded in school shooting

WILLIAMSPORT, Pennsylvania—A 14-year-old girl shot a female classmate in the shoulder in the cafeteria of their Roman Catholic school but dropped the gun at the urging of another student, authorities said.

A witness said Wednesday that the shooter fired at the floor and the bullet ricocheted into the victim, a classmate she had feuded with in the past.

"This is a situation of a student who was upset with another student," police officer David Ritter said. "This is not a random act of violence and as far as I understand there are no other targets for this violence."

The shooting happened around noon during lunch in the cafeteria filled with about 120 students at Bishop Neumann Junior-Senior High.

George Lepley, the girl's lawyer, said he understood from police and other students that his client had been teased by classmates, including the victim. He said she had not meant to shoot the other girl and was relieved to learn the bullet wound was not life-threatening.

"I have talked to several students and I have been told that the gun was pointed at the ground and she was saying things like leave her alone and so forth, and the shot was fired down toward the ground and it deflected up and hit the other girl," Lepley said.

Police said freshman Brent Paucke, 14, was able to persuade the girl to drop the gun. Paucke said he ducked under a lunchroom table when the girl came in screaming and fired two shots, but then recognized her from his school bus. *AP*

Soldiers comb thru debris for clues in school blast

BEIJING—Chinese soldiers combed through dusty heaps of rafters, bricks and children's books Wednesday in a search for clues in a schoolhouse explosion that killed at least 41 people—apparently including many children.

Local officials contacted by telephone vehemently denied reports that students were assembling fireworks at the time of the blast.

However, the debris was littered with firecracker wrapping papers, said a man who answered the phone at the local fire brigade and identified himself only by his surname, Chen.

Chen said that 37 of the dead were students and the other four were teachers.

"The dead bodies all look very terrible, many of them incomplete," he said.

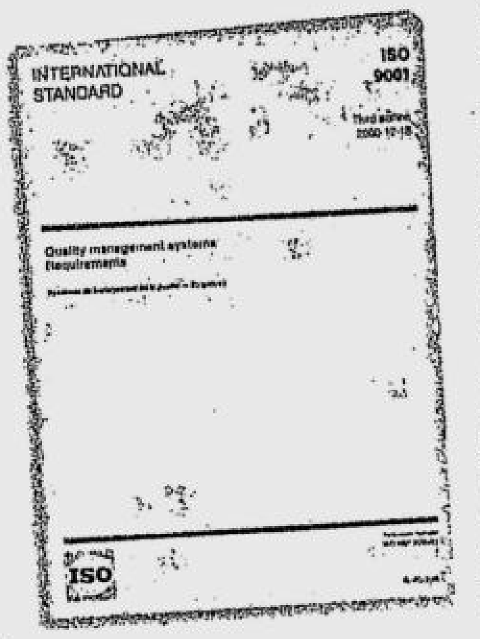
He declined to give more information, saying the cause of the explosion was still under investigation.

The United Nations' Children's Fund expressed "deep regret and outrage" at the deaths and at reports that children as young as 8 years old were assembling fireworks because of a funding shortfall at the school.

In a statement issued at UN headquarters in New York, Unicef called on China and the rest of the world to redouble efforts to address the issues of child labor and under-funded schools.

There were about 190 people in the two-story building when the blast hit Tuesday morning in Fang Lin village, said a member of the rescue team who also gave only her surname, Xu.

Fang Lin is in Jiangxi province, in southeastern China, about 768 km southwest of Shanghai. *AP*


INTERNATIONAL STANDARD
ISO 9001
Quality management systems Requirements
ISO

Move ahead with ISO 9001:2000

Have your organization certified to this updated global standard for quality management systems. And you can prove to your customers that you are truly committed to meet their requirements...excellently at all times.

In a more competitive market, your organization seeks to give your customers even better value. Strengthen your ability to satisfy your customers. Through continual improvements, show them you are their best supplier.

Call us for your certification requirements. Or, if you are now certified to ISO 9001, 9002 or 9003 of 1994, we will provide you all the details how you can convert your quality management system to the ISO 9001:2000 edition.

CERTIFICATION INTERNATIONAL

Certification International Phil., Inc.
Unit 602, OMM Building, San Miguel Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605
Phone : 637-2790; 637-2791
Fax : 914-8742
E-Mail : cip@info.com.ph

We provide certification services to ISO 9000 (1994 and 2000 editions), ISO 14001, QS9000, OSHAS 18001

Fly High

IAU Asia's Biggest Aerospace University
is proud of our graduates who are now employed
in foreign airlines, resort hotels and
international airports as Commercial Pilots,
Flight Stewardess, Tourism Managers,
Airport Managers and Airport Customs Brokers.

Enrollment Going On

New enrollees are advised to see for themselves our training aircrafts and our ten-hectare Mactan school campus before enrolling in the following courses.

- BS in Flying
- BS in Aerospace Engineering
- BS in Airline Management
- BS in Airport Management
- BS in Aircraft Maintenance Technology
- BS in Customs Administration
- BS in Hotel and Restaurant Management
- BS in Tourism and Travel Management
- BS in Computer Science
- BS in Criminology major in Aviation and Airport Security

To decongest Metro Manila, students enrolling in Teachers College (BEED, BSED) and Indiana College of Law (LLB) will enjoy educational incentives plus employment opportunities after graduation.

INDIANA
AEROSPACE UNIVERSITY

School Site
Gen. Aviation Road, Magellan Business Park
Island of Mactan, Cebu Philippines
Tel. Nos. (032) 340-0745 & 341-0201 • Telefax: (032) 340-0771
E-mail address: indiana@cebu.pw.net.ph • Cell No.: 0915-2049455

Makati Liaison Office
G-IV Gallery Bldg., Amorsolo Street
Makati City, Philippines
Tel. Nos.: (02) 818-5696 & 843-7142
Telefax: (02) 843-6671

A LYCEUM TEACHER TAUGHT THE FILIPINOS

He was a lawyer, a legislator, a jurist, a writer, a statesman, and an educator. He sponsored the Bill of Rights, was the President of the Second Philippine Republic, and taught the Filipino to be proud of being Filipino.

His name is Jose P. Laurel.

TO BE PROUD OF WHO THEY ARE.

He also founded the Lyceum of the Philippines. Here, at the Lyceum of Batangas and at the Lyceum Institute of Technology – founded by his son Sotero – his mission to mold young Filipinos ready and able to serve their homeland with all their God-given faculties and talents, continues.

To this day, Jose P. Laurel, and the love of country he stood for and fought for, lives on.

Get the edge in education
LYCEUM
MANILA • BATANGAS • LAGUNA

CURRICULAR OFFERINGS

LYCEUM OF THE PHILIPPINES

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS
Ph. D. in Public Finance
Ph.D. in Public Policies and Business Management
Master of Arts in Public Administration
Master of Arts in Business Administration
Master of Arts in Economics
Master of Arts in Diplomacy
Master of Arts in Political Science
Master of Arts in Fiscal Studies
Master of Arts in Education
Major: College Teaching
Guidance & Counseling
Management and Supervision

FIVE-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAMS
BS Computer Engineering
BS Mechanical Engineering
BS Electronics & Communications Engineering

FOUR-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAMS
BS Accountancy
Bachelor of Laws
AB Legal Studies
AB Mass Communication
Specialization: Advertising
Broadcast Communication
Public Relations
BS Computer Science
BS Psychology
BS Journalism
BS Hotel and Restaurant Management
BS Tourism
BS Foreign Service
Major: Diplomacy
International Trade
BS Office Administration
BS Business Administration
Major: Banking & Finance
Management
Marketing
Retail Trade Management
Computer Data Management and Processing
Tariff & Customs Administration
Management Accounting
Entrepreneurship
Economics
BS Secondary Education
Major: Physical Education

TWO-YEAR COURSES
Associate in Computer Technology
Associate in Tourism
Associate in Hotel & Restaurant Management
Associate in Retail Trade Management
Associate in Office Administration (Computer Oriented)

LYCEUM OF BATANGAS

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS
Master in Business Administration
Master in Public Administration
Master in College Teaching

SIX-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAM
Doctor of Dental Medicine

FIVE-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAMS
BS Physical Therapy
BS Computer Engineering
BS Accountancy

FOUR-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAMS
Bachelor of Arts (Level II Accredited)
Major: Communication Arts
English
Paralegal Studies
Psychology
BS Nursing
BS Medical Technology
BS Radiologic Technology
BS Criminology
BS Commerce (Level II Accredited)
Major: Banking and Finance
Management
Marketing
Financial and Management Accounting
BS Retail Trade Management
BS Production and Operation Management
BS Business and Computer System Administration
BS Information and Computer Science
BS Hotel and Restaurant Management
BS Customs Administration
BS Marine Transportation
BS Marine Engineering
BS Tourism
BS Maritime Management
Major: Port Administration
BS Foreign Service
Major: Diplomacy
BS Office Management

THREE-YEAR COURSE
Associate in Radiologic Technology

TWO-YEAR COURSES
Associate in Tourism
Associate in Computer Technology
Associate in Criminology
Associate in Hotel and Restaurant Management
Graduate in Midwifery
Secretarial Science
Associate in Health Science Education
Computer Maintenance Course
Electronic Computer Technology
Computer Secretarial
Associate in Office Technology
Associate in Accounting Technology
Applied Management Technology

ONE-YEAR COURSE
Basic Seaman Training Course

LYCEUM INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

DEGREE PROGRAMS
Engineering
Computer Science
Information Technoloy
Business and Sciences

We'll help you get the edge in education.
tel./Manila : (02) 527-1758
e-mail : lyceum_manila@yahoo.com
web : www.portalinc.com/lyceum)

tel./Batangas : (043) 723-2038
e-mail : lbregis@mozcom.com
web : www.lyceumbat.edu

tel./Laguna : (049) 245-5200
e-mail : litph@yahoo.com

Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

Exigency, Bongbong says of Lakas-KBL alliance

BY CRISTINA ARZADON
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LAOAG CITY—You can call it political exigency, Ilocos Norte Gov. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. says of the alliance between the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan and the Lakas-NUCD, two parties that rode on the crest of opposing political ideologies.

The KBL saw its glory during the days of the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos while Lakas is known for its personalities who fought the Marcos dictatorship in 1986.

"I firmly believe that the multi-party system has sucked all ideology out of all the parties. The parties no longer stand for anything. Maybe KBL is the last one. We stand on the same things we always stood for," the young Marcos told reporters on Wednesday.

Marcos, and his sister, Ilocos Norte Rep. Imee Marcos, two of the remaining KBL stalwarts, are known to have the full backing of Lakas with former Ilocos Norte Rep. Simeon Valdez still holding the provincial chairmanship of the ruling party.

"No party can claim that it belongs to the Left or the Right. There is only practical alliance when elections come," Marcos said.

But the governor has yet to accept the Lakas nomination as its official candidate, citing the squabble over the party's provincial chairmanship.

Valdez earlier confirmed that the administration party would maintain its alliance with the Marcoses' KBL.

Valdez, uncle of the late strongman, could not yet say when Lakas would proclaim the Marcos siblings as its candidates in the gubernatorial and congressional races because they have not filed their candidacies.

He said the Marcoses would get full endorsement from Lakas should they decide to declare the positions they are seeking.

"As far as I am concerned, Bongbong and Imee will be running unopposed," Valdez told the INQUIRER.

Valdez wanted a similar no-contest election in the top provincial post when he sent word to Ilocos Norte Rep. Rodolfo Fariñas that Lakas would not be fielding a candidate to run against him.

Fariñas, who holds the regional party chairmanship of the Nationalist People's Coalition, is presumably the opposition candidate for congressman.

But former Rep. Roque Ablan Jr., an erstwhile Marcos ally, made a surprise move when he announced late into the deadline of the filing of candidacies that he got the endorsement of top Lakas officials to run as the administration's candidate for the first district, challenging the incumbent Fariñas.

Ablan also received authority from Lakas executive director Joey Rufino to accept Lakas nominations in the first district, making him Lakas provincial chair, a position he has to share with Valdez.

Valdez has been designated to handle nominations in the second district.

Sources said Ablan sought Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, Lakas regional co-chair, in early January to support his accommodation in the ruling party after meeting with Singson in Vigan.

Ablan was said to have brought majority of Ilocos Norte mayors during the meeting with Singson to convince the latter that the mayors were behind Ablan.

Valdez, who ran and lost in the congressional race in 1998 against Imee Marcos, said he still holds the party chairmanship despite a certificate of nomination given by Lakas national officials to Ablan.

Valdez said Ablan got the co-chairmanship without his knowledge. He said it would be up to the Commission on Elections to recognize Ablan's nominations.

Political observers said Ablan's decision to contest Fariñas' congressional seat was a forced option because he failed to get Governor Marcos to accommodate him in his slate.

Reports said Marcos shunned Ablan because the governor was eyeing other candidates to be fielded to key posts. Marcos reportedly wanted Ablan to work in the sidelines and help him consolidate local officials instead of joining the race.

The Marcos siblings are said to be building the KBL as the new dominant group that will define the province's political course after the tactical alliance between Marcos and Fariñas ended shortly after the 1998 elections.

With Ablan facing Fariñas as a likely opponent for the congressional post, Marcos is expected to throw his support behind Ablan.

In an earlier interview with reporters, Ablan said Marcos would have to support somebody who would fight Fariñas.

"And who is that. There is only one candidate for congressman and that's me besides Mr. Fariñas," Ablan said.

Pinatubo body employees Edsa 2 'victims'

CLARK FIELD, Pampanga—While most Kapampangans consider the ouster of former President Joseph Estrada as their victory, the transition employees of the defunct Mount Pinatubo Commission here can be considered as losers or victims of People Power II.

Reason: The 75 employees of the Department of Budget and Management-MPC Task Force here have not received their salaries since Jan. 1 this year.

They said Estrada was ousted before he could sign an executive order allotting funds for their salaries.

The employees have been lamenting that they could no longer afford to buy lunch from the office's canteen and sustain their daily transportation fare because of the delay in the release of their salaries.

"Instead of buying lunch from the canteen, they bring along packed lunch. Some of them could not even report for work because they no longer have the money to commute to and from their workplace," Lita Aquino, officer-in-charge of the DBM-MPC Task Force, told the INQUIRER.

The employees said they are still hoping that President Macapagal-Arroyo would sign the executive order allotting funds for their salaries.

The DBM-MPC Task Force was created by former Budget Secretary Benjamin Diokno to enable the MPC to properly account its projects and the amounts involved before it formally transfers its functions and facilities to local governments and line agencies of the national government like the National Housing Authority.

Aquino explained that Diokno had prepared the executive order allotting funds for the salaries of the 75 DBM-MPC Task Force employees and had submitted it to Malacañang in January.

However, Aquino said former Executive Secretary Edgardo Angara did not act on the executive order. "When the EO was submitted to the then executive secretary, it took him sometime to review (it), from Jan. 1 to Jan. 19. Supposedly it was about to be signed by the President (Estrada), it's already in the table of President Estrada but Edsa People Power II happened," she said.

After Ms Macapagal took over the presidency, the EO was transferred to the office of Executive Secretary Renato de Villa, Aquino said.

Jun Malig, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Plebiscite set on laws creating 4 new cities

BACOLOD CITY—President Macapagal-Arroyo has signed into law bills creating four new cities on Negros Island.

Negros Occidental Rep. Apolinario Lozada said the plebiscite for the cityhood of Himamaylan, Sipalay and Escalante towns in Negros Occidental and in Tanjay town, Negros Oriental would be held simultaneously on March 26.

The plebiscites will allow residents to decide whether or not they favor the conversion of their towns into cities.

But Cirilo Nala, Commission on Elections provincial supervisor, said the March 26 schedule was still tentative because the Comelec en banc has yet to set the final date.

He said it would also be up to the poll body to decide if additional councilors would be elected to the new cities in the May 14 election.

The municipal council is entitled to eight councilors and the city council, 10.

Mayor Santiago Barcelona of Escalante said they wanted their town to be converted into a city because it would mean bigger revenue for development projects.

Carla Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau

Another quake strikes Baguio

BAGUIO CITY—Residents here were roused from their sleep yesterday dawn when another mild earthquake hit this city, more than 17 hours after a 3.9 magnitude tremor struck Baguio on Wednesday.

Officials of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology here said yesterday's 3.1 magnitude quake, felt at Intensity 2 in Baguio, struck at 5:33 a.m.

The tremor's epicenter was traced along the San Manuel Fault in Pangasinan, 21 kilometers southwest of Baguio City.

They said the quake affected only Baguio and was not felt in nearby areas. It lasted three minutes, according to instruments at the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology.

On Wednesday, the Intensity 3 earthquake that struck shortly past noon caused mild panic in the city as buildings swayed for nearly 20 seconds.

The quake hit at 12:03 p.m. due to tectonic movements 39 kilometers northwest of Lingayen, Pangasinan. A milder aftershock followed at around 12:45 p.m. *Gobleth Moulic, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern and Eastern Luzon and Eastern Visayas will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila Hi 32° Lo 23°	Baguio Hi 22° Lo 15°	Tuguegarao Hi 32° Lo 21°	Laoag Hi 32° Lo 23°
Clark Zone Hi 32° Lo 22°	Tagaytay Hi 30° Lo 21°	Legazpi Hi 31° Lo 24°	Calapan Hi 32° Lo 24°
Bacolod Hi 32° Lo 25°	Roxas Hi 32° Lo 27°	Cebu Hi 32° Lo 24°	Tacloban Hi 32° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos Hi 35° Lo 23°	Zamboanga Hi 34° Lo 25°	Cagayan de Oro Hi 32° Lo 22°	Davao Hi 32° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research

PDI BUREAUS

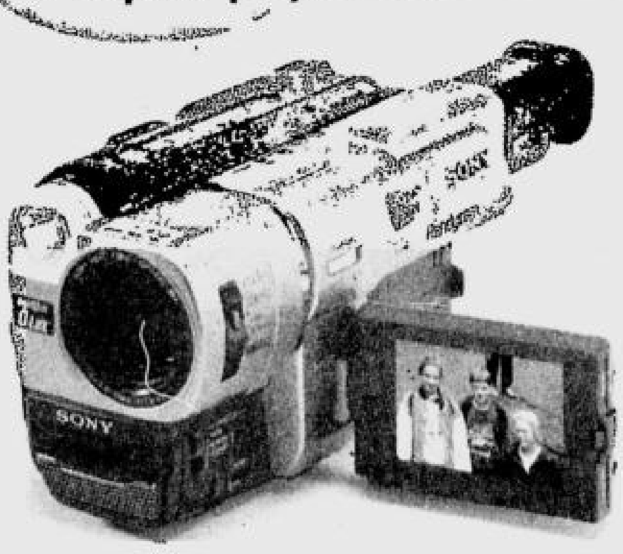
Northern Luzon Bureau
Central Luzon Desk
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop,
Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255
Fax No. (074) 443-8971
E-mail:
inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

Southern Luzon Bureau
Barangay 34 (Oro site),
Legazpi City
Tel. No . (052) 480-8099
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail:
inq_bicol@inquirer.com .ph

Visayas Bureau
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St.,
Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346 /
233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail:
pdivis@skyinet.net

Mindanao Bureau
479-c General Luna St.,
Davao City
Tel. No. (082) 221-7122
Fax No. (082) 227-6723
E-mail:
pdiminda@dv.weblinq.com

The AViD
"Zero-Six"
Deals
6 equal payments with 0% interest.



CCD-TRV57
Video 8 Handycam
P4,667 per month

● STAMINA 16 Hours ● Video 8 XR ● 2.5" LCD Screen ● Built-in Light ● Steadyshot ● Nightshot 0 Lux ● 200 x Digital Zoom (20 x Optical) ● Manual Focus/Fader ● Remote ● TBC S-DNR

It's available only from your AVID SONY SHOP, AV CENTER & BEYOND. You'll find different Video 8 Handycam models to choose from ...

MODEL	0% - 6 MONTHS	Cash Price
CCD-TRV57 Video 8 Handycam	P4,667 per month	P27,999
CCD-TR317 Video 8 Handycam	P3,000 per month	P17,999

Now is the right time to finally own that dream Video 8 Handycam that you've always wanted.

Available only at the following Avid Stores:

AViD SONY SHOP AV CENTER BEYOND

Participating cards:

BPI Express Credit Metrobank Equitable RCBC Diners Club International

AVID. The No. 1 Handycam dealer in the Philippines

The Promo will run from March 1 to 31, 2001 Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0275, Series of 2001

AVID SONY Cebu (032) 232-7638 Filinvest (632) 850-3642 Makati (632) 8937988 Manila (632) 5247277 Megamall (632) 633-2111 to 12 Quad (632) 893-4566 AV CENTER Bacoor (046) 417-6888 to 89 Balintawak (632) 453-3088 Cubao (632) 912-2048 Alabang (632) 807-2723 CALL AUDIO VIDEO SHOP Galleria (632) 632-9110 to 11 BEYOND: Farmer's Plaza, Cubao (632) 913-2740 / (632) 912-4932

GRAND ANNIVERSARY

SALE

up to 70% DISCOUNT
on selected items!

CATHAY BUILDER'S CENTER, INC.
All Branches Nationwide

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0436, Series of 2001

FREEPORT UNREST

Subic workers bring protest to SC

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—Protesting workers of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority and its subsidiary, the Freeport Services Corp., have elevated their case to the Department of Labor and Employment and the Civil Service Commission.

The workers asked Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas and Civil Service Commission Chair Karina David to intervene so that a dialogue could be set between them and the SBMA and FSC management.

They also sought the assistance of the regional office of the National Conciliation and Mediation Board in the issue.

Labor disputes in government offices such as the SBMA fall under the jurisdiction of the CSC. The protesting workers include personnel who are directly employed by the SBMA but most are FSC employees assigned to various SBMA offices and, in the case of the security personnel, to the companies operating in the freeport.

DOLE has jurisdiction over employees of the FSC, which is considered a private entity.

In their letters to the three government agencies, the workers said that out of their deep concern for SBMA, they could no longer allow alleged irregularities and unjust policies to continue under the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

The workers raised, among other things, alleged questionable deals in seaport operations and disposition of metal scraps, and changes made in the approved reorganization that have affected employees who have been with SBMA since the time of former SBMA chair and now Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon.

They also questioned the SBMA's alleged bias in favor of recommendations made by alleged political allies of the incumbent SBMA administration.

SBMA Chair Felicito Payumo recently announced the reinstatement of benefits for FSC employees absorbed by the SBMA and the 10 percent salary adjustment for FSC employees.

Manuel Aurelio, FSC president, said he has also ordered the investigation of eight security supervisors accused of harassment and intimidation, extortion and irregularities such as the collection of the P800-fee for security guard license which security personnel never got.

The workers noted, however, that their other grievances had been ignored, as well as their request for a dialogue with SBMA and FSC officials to resolve the issues that they had raised. *Elizabeth Marcelo, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY
4/F, Manila Astral Tower, 1330 Taft
Avenue corner Padre Faura, 1000 Manila
521-8236; 523-6465; 524-6813

EDA–A Leading Training and
Management Consulting Firm Since 1968

EDA is established. Others just come and go. At EDA, participants are assured on continuing free consultations and updating of courses at no cost to her graduates. Our graduates are satisfied. They re-enroll in other courses because they get their money's worth.

SCHEDULE OF SEMINARS FOR March 2001

- ACCOUNTING FOR NON-ACCOUNTANTS
  March 24 – April 28, 2001 Saturday 9:00AM-12:00NN
- SUPERVISORY DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING
  March 19 – 30, 2001 M-W-F 6:00PM-8:00PM
- HUMAN RELATIONS
  March 17, 2001 Saturday 1:00PM-5:00PM
- HOW TO DELEGATE WORK AND ENSURE IT'S DONE RIGHT
  March 17, 2001 Saturday 1:00PM-5:00PM
- TECHNIQUES IN HANDLING DISCIPLINARY ACTION & DISMISSAL
  March 24, 2001 Saturday 1:00PM-5:00PM
- EFFECTIVE WRITTEN COMMUNICATION
  March 19 – 26, 2001 M-W-F 6:00PM-9:00PM
- MANAGEMENT BY OBJECTIVE
  March 19 – 26, 2001 M-W-F 6:00PM-9:00PM
- HOW TO QUALIFY PROSPECTS & HIT THE RIGHT SALES TARGET
  March 17, 2001 Saturday 1:00PM-5:00PM
- CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT
  March 24 – April 7, 2001 Saturday 1:00PM-5:00PM
- MATERIALS AND INVENTORY MANAGEMENT
  March 24 – April 7, 2001 Saturday 1:00PM-5:00PM

EDA Seminars are accredited by
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION and
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION

EDA Courses are also available on
Tutorial or in-house basis

Orly urges caution in talks with MILF

MERCADO

FORMER Defense Secretary Orlando Mercado yesterday expressed support for ongoing initiatives to resume peace talks with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front but warned against allowing the MILF to regain strength.

In a statement, Mercado, an independent senatorial candidate, said the Macapagal administration should negotiate from a position of strength in the wake of the government's success in its previous offensives against the MILF.

Ousted President Joseph Estrada had waged an all-out war against the MILF and ordered the capture of the guerrillas' camps in Mindanao.

The all-out war displaced thousands of families and led to the deaths of hundreds of people, mostly civilians who were caught in the crossfire or had died in evacuation camps.

"We must not forget that the successful campaign against the MILF was carried out at the cost of the lives of our gallant soldiers," Mercado said in his statement.

"We support a negotiated peaceful settlement of the MILF problem as military action is only temporary because the real solution to the conflict in Mindanao is socio-economic development," his statement added.

Mercado opened his Mindanao campaign with a day-long visit to Zamboanga City.

In Zamboanga, he advised policemen to continue their offensives against the bandit group Abu Sayyaf and be always on alert for any attacks by the bandits.

The Abu Sayyaf is still holding captive American Jeffrey Schilling and Filipino Roland Ullah. Its leaders have expressed willingness to negotiate for the release of the two captives.

72 held for gun offenses

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—Police have arrested 69 civilians, two military officers and a policeman for violation of the election gun ban, according to Chief Supt. Domingo Reyes, police regional director.

Supt. Arsenio Pinacate, police regional information officer, said police operatives have confiscated from the violators 43 firearms, six of which are classified as high-powered guns, a fragmentation grenade, four molotov bombs and 12 bladed weapons during the period.

"The arrests are part of an honest-to-goodness implementation of the Commission on Elections checkpoints and gun ban as ordered by the PNP hierarchy in a determined effort to fulfill an honest, orderly and peaceful May 14 election," Reyes said. *Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

'Jueteng' crackdown continues

THE DEPARTMENT of Interior and Local Government has sacked a total of 12 municipal police chiefs because of unabated jueteng operations in their areas since the start of the Macapagal administration.

Interior Secretary Jose Lina said the last five police chiefs to be relieved all came from Pangasinan. Earlier, Lina ordered the replacement of seven other officers in the Southern Tagalog region.

The Pangasinan-based officers who lost their assignments in jueteng-infested communities were Insp. Jimmy Agtarap of Malasiqui town, Insp. Leopoldo Rivera of Mangaldan, Chief Insp. Arsenio Tancingco of Villasis, Chief Insp. Sotero Soriano of Alcala, and Supt. Wendy Rosario of Dagupan. *Volt Contreras*

NBI hunts House bet for estafa

DIGOS CITY—The National Bureau of Investigation has launched a nationwide manhunt against a convicted swindler who is running for the first congressional seat in Davao del Sur under the ruling Lakas-NUCD.

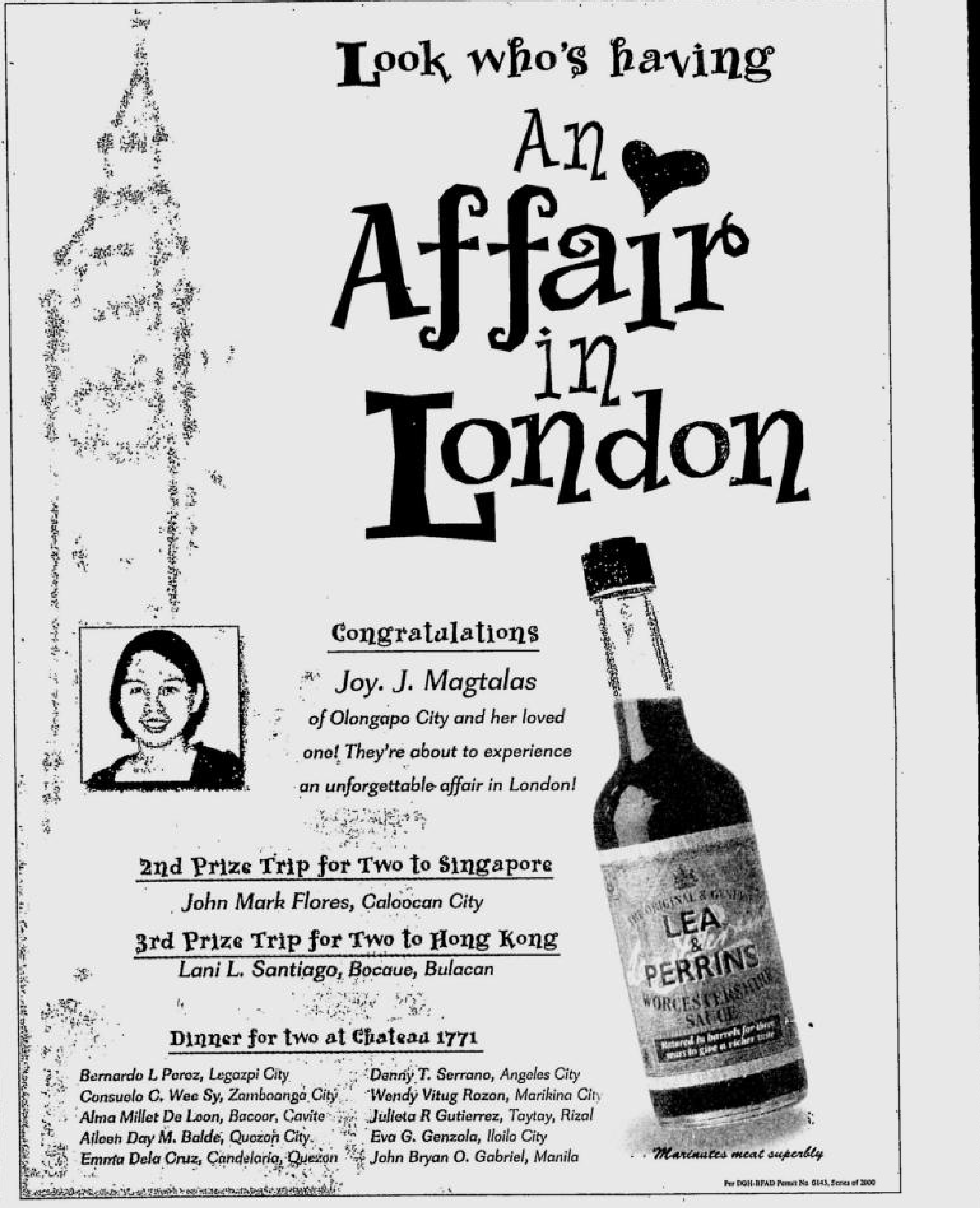
Three NBI agents who came here Wednesday refused to talk about the details of the manhunt against Pablo Villaber but said Villaber is also being hunted in other parts of the country.

Villaber was sentenced to a year of imprisonment by the RTC Branch 15 of Manila, a decision upheld with finality by the Supreme Court in 1992. But the warrant of arrest against Villaber has not been served since it was issued eight years ago.

The agents said the NBI office in Davao received a direct order from Director Reynaldo Wycoco for the enforcement of the arrest warrant, along with other warrants of arrest for several charges against the businessman. *Allan Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

LET'S TALK COMMUNICATIONS INC.,
THE CHEAPEST 'CORDLESS PHONE' in TOWN
- INSTALL 9 PHONE NUMBERS
- RANGE: 30 TO 40 METER RADIUS
- 10 CHANNELS

LUCENT 4336
FOR ONLY P690.00
CALL OR VISIT US @
G/F ITS BUILDING
2310 Pasong Tamo Extn.,Makati City
Tel: 892-2762; 843-1482; 843-2249
Telefax: 893-4634
E-mail: letstalk@pworld.net.ph



Look who's having An Affair in London

Congratulations
Joy. J. Magtalas
of Olongapo City and her loved one! They're about to experience an unforgettable affair in London!

2nd Prize Trip for Two to Singapore
John Mark Flores, Caloocan City

3rd Prize Trip for Two to Hong Kong
Lani L. Santiago, Bocaue, Bulacan

Dinner for two at Chateau 1771
Bernardo L Perez, Legazpi City
Consuelo C. Wee Sy, Zamboanga City
Alma Millet De Leon, Bacoor, Cavite
Aileen Day M. Balde, Quezon City
Emma Dela Cruz, Candelaria, Quezon
Danny T. Serrano, Angeles City
Wendy Vitug Rozon, Marikina City
Julieta R Gutierrez, Taytay, Rizal
Eva G. Genzola, Iloilo City
John Bryan O. Gabriel, Manila

Marinates meat superbly

Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 0143, Series of 2000

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPPINES
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
TOLL REGULATORY BOARD
PASIG CITY

IN RE: PETITION FOR ADJUSTMENT
OF TOLL RATES FOR THE
METRO MANILA SKYWAY PROJECT
(STAGE 1)

TRB CASE NO. 2001-01

CITRA METRO MANILA TOLLWAYS CORPORATION
Petitioner,
x---x

AMENDED PETITION

The Petitioner, by counsel, most respectfully state that:

1. Citra Metro Manila Tollways Corporation (Petitioner) is a corporation duly organized and existing under the law of the Philippines, with offices at the 23rd Floor One Magnificent Mile-Citra Building, San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City;
2. On 27 November 1995, a Supplemental Toll Operation Agreement (STOA) was entered into by and among the Republic of the Philippines, acting by and through the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB), as Grantor, Philippine National Construction Corporation (PNCC), as Operator, and Petitioner, as Investor, wherein CMMTC and PNCC were vested the primary and exclusive privilege, responsibility and obligation to design, construct and finance and to operate and maintain, respectively, the Metro Manila Skyway Project Stage 1 (Project).
3. Petitioner had agreed to undertake the Project relying, among others, in the Philippine Government's determination, as provided for in the third and fourth Whereas Clauses of the STOA, to wit:

   "WHEREAS, the Government of the Republic of the Philippines has determined that the expeditious construction and operation of the Metro Manila Skyway and Metro Manila Tollway (C-6) are necessary and essential to the success of its economic development program, particularly in the Southern Luzon area (Calabarzon), and had accordingly classified both facilities (i.e. the Metro Manila Skyway and the Metro Manila Tollway (C-6) as flagship projects.

   "WHEREAS, the Philippine Government has also determined that the completion of the two abovementioned projects would be most feasible within the short-term if undertaken through private sector initiative, investment and participation, both domestic and foreign.
4. Under the STOA, the Project shall consist of two (2) components, namely: (a) the proposed Bicutan to Buendia new tollroad, with the Ayala Central Business district access ramps (being a portion of the South Metro Manila Skyway); and (b) the upgraded at-grade portion of the South Luzon Expressway (from Alabang to Nichols), which complementary components are conceived and are intended to be operated as an integrated subsystem of the Metro Manila Skyway.
5. As authorized and recognized under the STOA, petitioner entered into a financing arrangement (other than the common equity portion) with several financiers to finance the construction of the Project. The financial arrangement is embodied in a Master Agreement dated 25 September 1996, as well as other related documents, entered into by Petitioner with its financiers, stating therein the terms and conditions on the financing obtained by Petitioner for the Project. A copy of the financing documents, the approval from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) of Petitioner's financing amounting to USD262,000,000.00 and USD92,000,000.00, the Convertible Note Issuance Agreement and the Articles of Incorporation were submitted to the TRB during the hearing of TRB-PH-TR Case Nos. 99-001 to 99-004.
6. To meet the US Dollar financial obligations for the Project, petitioner must rely on the toll fees to provide Philippine Peso revenues. At the time of the approval of the prevailing initial toll rates in the STOA in November 1995, the average peso exchange rate was about P26.1671 for every US$1.00. Thus, at that time, for every US$1.00 of financing obligation, roughly P26.16 in toll revenue needed to be generated to service the said obligation. The outstanding financial obligations for the Project as of 31 December 2000 amount to about US$442,317,724.52
7. Since November 1995, the Philippine Peso has suffered a significant currency devaluation. The present average peso exchange rate to a US Dollar is about P48.00 for every US$1.00. Hence, the currency devaluation has resulted in an increase in the debt-service burden for the Project. It now takes about P48.00 of toll revenue to service each US$1.00 of financial obligation.
8. In the event of a significant currency devaluation, the STOA authorizes petitioner to apply for an interim adjustment of the toll rates. The relevant portions of the STOA provide:

   a) "The Investor and/or Operator shall be entitled to apply for and if warranted, to be granted an interim adjustment of Toll Rates upon occurrence of any of the following events: xx

      (ii) a significant currency devaluation" [Section 7.04 (3) (a)] *[underscoring supplied]*

   b) "A currency devaluation shall be deemed "significant" if it results in a depreciation of the value of the Philippine peso relative to the US dollar by at least 10%. For purposes hereof the exchange rate between the Philippine Peso and the US dollar which shall be applicable shall be the exchange rate between the above mentioned currencies in effect as of the date of approval of the prevailing preceding Toll Rate." [Section 7.04 (3) (c) (i)]

   c) "The Investor's right to apply for an Interim Toll Rate adjustment under Section 7.04 (3) (a) (ii) shall be effective only while any Financing are outstanding and have not yet been paid in full." [Section 7.04 (3) (c) (ii)]

   d) "Financing shall mean any financing arrangement (except the equity portion) entered into from time to time by the Investor to finance the Construction of the First Stage Toll Road, including any refinancing thereof."

   e) "An Interim adjustment in Toll Rate shall consider such amount as may be required to provide interim relief to the Investor from a substantial increase in debt-service burden resulting from the devaluation." [Section 7.04 (3) (c) (iii)]
9. Petitioner is entitled to interim toll rates adjustment at least until 31 December 2002 or until the first periodic toll rate adjustment is availed of pursuant to the provisions of the STOA. Attached as Annexes "A" and "B" hereof are the proposed toll rates and the computations thereof, respectively, which are based on the assumption that the proposed toll rates would be implemented by 01 April 2001. Such entitlement to interim toll rates adjustment granted under the STOA which is hereby being invoked by petitioner is without prejudice to the exercise of such right if and when another significant currency devaluation occurs.
10. There is an urgent and compelling need to increase the toll rates for the Metro Manila Skyway Project Stage 1 in order to meet the loan obligations of the Project and the substantial increase in debt-service burden resulting from the devaluation.

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully prayed that the proposed toll rate adjustments be the subject of a public hearing and be approved for implementation effective 01 April 2001.

Makati City for Pasig City, Philippines, 27 February 2001.

ROMULO MABANTA BUENAVENTURA
SAYOC AND DELOS ANGELES LAW OFFICES
Counsel for Petitioner
30th Floor Citibank Building
8741 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

By:

(Sgd.) MICHAEL G. AGUINALDO
IBP No. 515966-12/12/00-Rizal
PTR No. 7726306-1/3/2001-Makati

Verification and Certification

I, CEZAR T. QUIAMBAO, President and CEO of Citra Metro Manila Tollways Corporation (CMMTC), with principal offices at the 23rd Floor One Magnificent Mile-Citra Building, San Miguel, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, state on oath that:

1. As the President and CEO of CMMTC, I am authorized to represent Citra Metro Manila Tollways Corporation relative to this Amended Petition which I have caused to be prepared and filed, and which I have read and understood, and whose contents are true and correct of my personal knowledge and based on authentic records in the company's possession.
2. I certify that the CMMTC has complied with all existing laws, rules, and regulations being implemented by the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB), and the Petitioner, have no pending net financial or monetary obligation in the form, among others, of supervision fees, concession fees, penalties, and other charges with the TRB.

(Sgd.) CEZAR T. QUIAMBAO
Affiant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me on the 27th day of February 2001 at Makati City affiant exhibiting to me his Community Tax Certificate No. 07723591 issued on 21 February 2001 at Bayambang, Pangasinan.

(Sgd.) ATTY. BENJAMIN R. CARALE
Notary Public
Until December 31, 2001
PTR No. 7726314-01/03/01 - Makati City
IBP No. 515980-12/12/00 - Pasig City

Doc. No. 193;
Page No. 040;
Book No. 1;
Series of 2001.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPPINES
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
TOLL REGULATORY BOARD
PASIG CITY

IN RE: PETITION FOR ADJUSTMENT
OF TOLL RATES FOR THE
METRO MANILA SKYWAY PROJECT
(STAGE 1)

TRB CASE NO. 2001-01

CITRA METRO MANILA TOLLWAYS CORPORATION
Petitioner,
x---x

ORDER

Finding the Amended Petition filed on February 27, 2001 sufficient in form and substance, you are hereby directed to cause the publication of the aforesaid Amended Petition for Adjustment of Toll Rates for the Metro Manila Skyway Project Stage 1, including the toll rates proposed to be adjusted, as well as the date of the pre-trial hearing and/or hearing on the main thereof scheduled at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, 14 March 2001, twice in a newspaper of general circulation on March 2 and 9, 2001.

You are likewise to include in said publication the following paragraph:

> "Any interested expressway user shall have the right to file their comment/opposition to the proposed toll rate adjustment prayed for with the Toll Regulatory Board with address at 2/F Integrated Bar of the Philippines Building, Julia Vargas Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Further, any interested expressway user may obtain a copy of the Amended Petition, including the annexes thereto, at the TRB Office during office hours."

SO ORDERED.

February 28, 2001, Pasig City, Philippines.

(Sgd.) MARIANO E. BENEDICTO II
Executive Director/Hearing Officer

CITRA METRO MANILA TOLLWAYS CORPORATION
Toll Rates

	CLASS 1		CLASS 2		CLASS 3	
	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed	Existing	Proposed
Elevated Section	Php 55.00	Php 75.00	Php 110.00	Php 190.00	Php 165.00	Php 300.00
At-Grade Section						
Magallanes-Bicutan*	10.50	35.00	21.00	90.00	31.50	140.00
Bicutan-Sucat	6.00	20.00	12.00	50.00	18.00	80.00
Sucat-Alabang	6.00	20.00	12.00	50.00	12.00	80.00

* Includes C-5 and Merville entry & exit points

Now, it's failed asylum bid for Erap

(From page A1)

The Brunei and Indonesian Embassies said they had no reports of any such request.

The Nation report, however, quoted its source as saying that if Thailand decided to grant Estrada asylum, it would risk criticism from its colleagues in the Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean).

But the former President's friend, an unofficial spokesperson in the weeks since Estrada left Malacañang, said: "In fact, he does not even recall the name of the Thai ambassador."

"Why don't you talk to the Thai ambassador and ask him if indeed he (Estrada) called him?" he said, relaying the ousted president's immediate reaction to the report.

The Nation, an independent English-language broadsheet, reported that Thai immigration officers around the country had been instructed to keep a close watch in case Estrada tries to slip in.

The article, headlined "Beleaguered Erap comes knocking on the door but is told to go away," came on the heels of reports that the deposed leader had planned three escape attempts while in Mindanao last week.

The paper said "it was highly unlikely that the Kingdom could consider harboring the Filipino while the new (Thai) administration already had its hands full with its own problems," including border problems with Burma, and the recent sabotage of a plane that was due to carry the Thai prime minister.

Estrada visited Thailand in December 1998 and February 2000 while he was still President.

7 countries alerted

Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona warned neighbors and friendly countries against giving asylum to Estrada, although he said that "alerting (these countries) is all we can do."

He also said that his office alerted "seven neighboring countries" as early as March 2 to the possibility that the beleaguered former head of state might attempt to cross into their borders.

On Monday, Guingona said the department had requested five governments—Hong Kong, Indonesia, Guam, Palau and Papua New Guinea—to deny Estrada asylum, after a military official claimed that the Armed Forces had discovered the three aborted escape plans to Indonesia, Hong Kong and Palau.

Guingona did not name the other two countries yesterday.

"The issue of exile is up to the former President and the countries where he applies asylum to," Guingona told reporters.

"But if we have friendly ties, their acceptance will be interpreted as an unfriendly act," he added.

"It's up to the host country. They must realize the consequences. If they are our friend, they should not give shelter to the person who is being prosecuted according to the rules of the Philippines."

Not verified

Should Estrada seek refuge in a country with an extradition treaty with the Philippines, Guingona said, Manila would immediately move to extradite the former leader, who faces the charge of plunder, a non-bailable offense punishable by death.

National Security Adviser Roilo Golez told reporters that the government could not confirm the Nation report, while Foreign Undersecretary Lauro Baja said authorities were checking the story.

President Macapagal-Arroyo's spokesperson Renato Corona contended that Estrada could not apply for asylum because he was not being politically persecuted and faced criminal charges

Estrada's son. Joseph Victor "JV" Ejercito, who is running for mayor of San Juan, again vehemently denied that his father had any intention to leave the country.

"That is not true. My father has reiterated a lot of times that he will not leave the country. He was born here and he will die here," Ejercito said.

He charged that the government was spreading the "false" reports to harass the deposed leader, echoing earlier accusations of the pro-Estrada coalition Puwersa ng Masang Pilipino.

The former first family and some of Estrada's cronies have been barred from leaving the country amid preparations by the government to charge him with plunder during his 30-month rule.

Last week, the Supreme Court ruled to uphold the legitimacy of the Macapagal presidency and to strip Estrada of immunity from prosecution, paving the way for the Ombudsman to file several cases against the former president in the Sandiganbayan.

But the high court has barred filing of criminal charges against Estrada until March 23, saying its ruling on his loss of immunity was not yet final and subject to appeal.

He is under round-the-clock government surveillance, and security, military and justice authorities have ordered the country's exit points put under close watch.

Now C. Luzon

For instance, the Department of Justice has asked the Philippine Army to secure 12 airports and airstrips in Central Luzon, which could be possible escape routes for the former president.

The 12 airports, mostly commercial, are not manned by the Philippine National Police, the justice department said in a letter to regional police officials in Camp Olivas in Pampanga.

The justice department wants the Army to secure airfields located in Iba, Castillejos and Masinloc in Zambales, Corregidor and Samal in Bataan; Baler in Aurora; Crow Valley and Voice of America compound in Tarlac; Cabanatuan City in Nueva Ecija; and Basa Air Base, Tipco and Woodland Air Park in Pampanga.

The Philippine Air Force has also secured the Clark International Airport inside the Clark Special Economic Zone.

The military has been particularly concerned about the possibility that Estrada might try to escape through a backdoor in Mindanao, and exit routes there are reportedly under close guard. *With reports from Inquirer wires; Volt Contreras, Donna Cueto; and Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Cop rescued but rains spoil happy ending

(From page A1)

preme sacrifice because he was true to his calling as a soldier, sworn to defend the country and people."

"Let not his death be in vain," she said.

Satur Ocampo, president of the party-list group Bayan Muna and former NDF spokesperson, laid the blame for Martin's death on the Macapagal administration.

"It is unfortunate that prisoner Martin had to die this way. He was to be released in the soonest possible time but the President and her AFP did not speed up the work for his release, " Ocampo said.

Acting Defense Secretary Eduardo Ermita said: "This is a very unhappy incident. Only hours ago we were all glad. The President is very unhappy over the developments."

Members of the NPA Melito Glor Command abducted Martin in a daring raid on the Dolores police station at the foot of Mt. Banahaw on Nov. 3, 1999.

Cielo Buan, whose husband was also abducted by the NPA at about the same time, yesterday appealed to both the military and the NPA/NDF to "please don't let this happen to my husband."

Patrol

Lachica reported that soldiers were on patrol in Barangay Tamala, General Nakar, in the northern part of Quezon, to block a group of NPA rebels that raided Burdeos town in Polilio on March 2

He said the soldiers came upon some 20 rebels in a makeshift camp, and engaged them in a two-hour firefight.

The rebels then fled in different directions, he said.

"When the smoke cleared, the soldiers found Major Martin with a gunshot wound in his buttocks. I dispatched helicopters to evacuate him in the very first hour of the morning," Lachica said.

Lachica himself joined the party that left to collect Martin.

At a press conference held at about 10:30 a.m. yesterday at Camp Guillermo Nakar, Navy Capt. Robert Garcia, deputy chief of the JTFSL, said bad weather and rough seas prevented Martin's immediate transfer to the nearest military camp for first aid.

According to Garcia, the site of the clash is not reachable by land.

"Our chopper was forced to land at a military base in Infanta to wait for the weather and the seas to calm down a little. But unfortunately, the elements of time and cooperative weather were against us," Garcia said.

He added: "We tried our very best to evacuate Major Martin to safety, specifically to the nearest shoreline, so that he could be immediately treated. But strong rains prevented us from doing so. It was very unfortunate."

Garcia said even Lachica had to wait at the Special Warfare Group office in Infanta for the weather to ease up.

He stressed that Martin was still alive when the soldiers found him but that "we cannot yet ascertain from whose side came the bullet that eventually killed (him)."

A press release issued by Police Regional Office IV director Chief Supt. Domingo Reyes Jr., who flew to Quezon in a police helicopter, said the rebels shot Martin before they fled.

Garcia said that a certain Cpl. Jonald Move was also wounded in the clash, and that there was no casualty on the rebels' side.

He said Buan was not with the NPA group.

Investigation

Quezon Rep. Marcial Punzalan Jr., a *compadre* of Martin, said he would ask the President to order an investigation of the incident.

"Of all places, why is it that the military will conduct an operation in that area? Was it a deliberate encounter? This incident should be fully investigated because this may pose a setback to the ongoing peace process," Punzalan said.

Fr. Raul Enriquez, spiritual adviser of the Martin family, expressed astonishment at the manner of Martin's death.

"After all those months, he was found. Suddenly, he's dead. I really pity his family," Enriquez said.

But Ermita said the incident would not derail the resumption of peace talks between the government and the NDF.

"The NDF leadership knows it was really a chance encounter. There was no betrayal here," he said. "We are back on the peace tack and I hope we would be able to pursue what we have started."

Ermita also said the incident would not affect negotiations for Buan's release.

But Danilo Ramos, secretary general of the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, said Martin's death showed not only that Ms Macapagal's "all-out peace" campaign was "a farce" but also that she herself had no control over the military.

"This is proven by the power struggle within the ranks of the AFP, which, despite her pronouncements that her government is against all-out war, ground commanders continue to launch military offensives," Ramos said.

Dani Beltran of the Church-based Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace described the military operation as "reckless" and unnecessary.

"We hope this so-called chance encounter is not part of a calibrated operation by elements within the civilian military bureaucracy that seek to sabotage the resumption of peace talks between the government and revolutionary forces," Beltran said.

In San Fernando City, Fr. Noli Alparce, who was among those working for the release of Martin and Buan, said the soldiers involved in the incident did not deliberately pursue the rebels or had knowledge that the rebels had Martin in custody.

Alparce also said Martin's death would not affect the resumption of the peace talks

Extra mile

The President said Martin's death came at a time when her administration "is walking the extra mile so that we will have meaningful and lasting peace in our time."

She cited the recent release of 17 political prisoners.

In declaring a ceasefire, Ms Macapagal hopes that this will enable "third party emissaries" to work with the Communist Party of the Philippines, the NPA and the NDF toward Buan's safe release.

"I announce this while condoling deeply with the family of Chief Inspector Martin. I hope that indeed his death will not be in vain and shall encourage all those concerned to allow Major Buan to come home to his family," she said.

"I appeal for compassion and a sense of humanity," she added.

The President said she had ordered Ermita and AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Angelo Reyes to submit recommendations on the Somo's "geographical coverage and duration."

While lauding the "vigilance and courage" of the soldiers involved in the incident, she also expressed hope that NDF leaders would not allow it to affect the peace talks.

The President also asked the CPP/NPA/NDF to "show their good faith by releasing Major Buan."

"To all rebels of all factions, I say that now is the time to heal and the time to build. We owe this to our country. We owe this to the Filipino," she said.

Sad day

Cielo Buan flew in a chopper to Camp Nakar together with Sen. Loren Legarda-Leviste to condole with Martin's widow Nenita.

"This is one of the saddest days of my life. I cannot begin to imagine what *Aling* Nita is going through right now. We've been close. We went through so much suffering. It's a profound loss," Cielo said after she and the senator arrived at the Army-Navy Club.

"I am making an appeal to both the military and the CPP/NPA. I hope this will not happen to me and (my daughter)," she said.

Legarda-Leviste and Sen. Rodolfo Biazon expressed sadness at Martin's death.

They urged the government and the rebels to ensure that this would not hamper the peace talks.

At Camp Crame, Deputy Director General Leandro Mendoza, acting chief of the Philippine National Police, said the PNP would continue to support the administration's peace initiatives.

He also extended condolences to Martin's family.

Mendoza said Martin's death would be viewed as a criminal act and those responsible would be brought to justice.

PNP authorities in Southern Tagalog are now preparing full honors for Martin's funeral. *With reports from Armand Nocum, Andrea T. Echavez, Carlito Pablo, Juliet L. Javellana and Dave Veridiano in Manila; Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Joy turns to grief for Nenita

(From page A1)

kemia in 1999; 4-year-old Chloie, her sole grandchild; and members of the media.

At about 10:20 a.m., the message that Abe was dead reached Camp Nakar. Minutes later, wails of grief filled Lachica's quarters.

Abe was 52. The last time Nenita saw him alive was a year and four months ago.

During their wait for Abe, Corazon, 76, said she was looking forward to drinking sessions with him and Nenita.

But before settling down to serious drinking, she said, Abe would probably first visit the graves of his son Allan and his stepfather *Tiyo* Aldo, who passed away last year while deeply longing for his homecoming.

His favorite drink was brandy, Corazon said, adding: "He could not drink if it was not Fundador."

"But Nenita gets drunk easily—only three rounds and she's down," Corazon said. "So it's just Abe and me left drinking."

For *pulutan* (bar chow), Abe would personally broil *tilapia* and whip up his favorite beef *caldereta*.

"He was fond of cooking his favorite food all by himself. Broiled pork, fried chicken . . . he really loved to cook and eat," Corazon recalled.

"And Abe preferred the *caldereta* hot," quipped Nenita.

She held Chloie on her lap, now and then whispering to the child that her Papa Abe would be home soon. But the child, was distracted, her eyes by turns focused on the television cameras and blinking in the flashbulbs.

"But since Abe cannot possibly attend to his cooking immediately, his wife will do the cooking for the meantime," Corazon said.

She said she could not wait to serve her son another of his favorite dishes, eel cooked in coconut milk.

"That's what Abe and the Lucena mayor often had for *pulutan*," she said.

Radio call

Nenita told the INQUIRER that earlier in the day, she had heard Lachica calling for her through radio dzRH.

"I immediately proceeded to Camp Nakar to wait for my Abe," she said.

She was not allowed to join the military contingent that took off early morning to collect her husband.

"I know that he's wounded, but I was ordered to just stay here, and I was assured that any information regarding his condition would be immediately relayed to me," she said.

Nenita heard from Abe three times while he has being held by the Melito Glor Command of the New People's Army.

"The last time was in January, right after Edsa II," she said. "In a voice tape handed to my daughter-in-law by an NPA courier, I was quite surprised that Abe addressed his call for assistance to President Estrada when he was already ousted by people power and it is now President Macapagal."

Nenita also said Cielo Buan, wife of the other NPA prisoner, Maj. Noel Buan, called her by cell phone.

Cielo asked Nenita to tell Lachica that she was also asking for help in the release of her husband.

Buan was abducted by the Melito Glor Command in July 1999, on suspicion of being a deep-penetration agent.

Military order

While waiting for Abe's return, Nenita was pelted with questions by reporters hoping to solicit the most revealing information from her.

But she kept on telling them that there would be a press conference upon her husband's arrival.

"That is also the military's order to me," she said.

Still, Nenita gamely participated in the exchange of jokes, and dished out details on her and Abe's life together.

Asked whether all the politicians that had offered help for her husband's release made a difference, she shook her head.

"Except for Sen. Loren Legarda," she quickly said.

INTRODUCING
MEJORE DINING ROOM
COLLECTION

Special Floor Sample Sale * March 9-13, 2001
Enjoy Factory Prices... E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue,
Libis, Quezon City 1110 Tel: 6375976

NBI summons . . .

(From page A1)

Wycoco admitted Tuesday that he might summon top PAOCTF officials of the previous administration to shed light on the abduction.

Lacson headed the PAOCTF in a concurrent capacity until he resigned in January as PNP chief. Other former PAOCTF officials are Supt. Michael Ray Aquino (operations chief), Senior Supt. Cesar Mancao (head of task force Luzon) and Senior Supt. Teofilo Viña (head of task force Visayas).

Wycoco was careful not to directly link them to the abduction.

"We are not yet indicting them. We don't want this to be a political issue. Our concern is mainly to investigate the case," the NBI chief said.

Lacson, who arrived in Cebu City yesterday from the United States via Hong Kong, denied any involvement in the disappearance of Dacer.

He said at a press conference that the only basis linking him to Dacer's abduction was the PAOCTF raid on a house near Dacer's residence in Sun Valley Subdivision in Parañaque City.

"If the raid was a cover up for a surveillance, I don't see any sense at all for operatives to create a commotion for a surveillance of a supposed target," Lacson said.

He refused to comment any further, saying, "I don't want to comment on a case that I know nothing about."

But Lacson clarified that the PNP under his watch was not given the opportunity to work on the Dacer case because it was remanded to the NBI upon the instructions of then President Joseph Estrada.

The NBI admitted that it had invited for questioning two former PAOCTF officials a day after a ranking police official disclosed that at least 28 PAOCTF agents carried out the abduction.

The police official even claimed that two of the 28 PAOCTF members were now under the custody of the NBI. He further claimed that the two had expressed willingness to turn state witness.

The official said the 28 policemen worked in four seven-member teams to carry out the surveillance, abduction, killing and disposal of the victims' remains.

Ong refused to comment on the police official's claims and instead told reporters to wait for an official announcement today. He also refused to reveal his men's initial findings on the more than three-month case.

On Tuesday, Wycoco tagged as suspects seven PAOCTF members for their alleged complicity in the abduction of Dacer and his driver, Manuel Corbito.

The two were aboard a white Toyota Revo when armed men blocked their path and forcibly abducted them on South Superhighway and Zobel Roxas Street in Manila on Nov. 24.

Dacer was on his way to the Manila Hotel to meet with former President Fidel Ramos.

The seven PAOCTF members were the same ones charged last month with obstruction of justice, among other charges, before the Department of Justice after they refused to cooperate with the NBI.

Wycoco said the seven carried out the raid on a house near Dacer's home on Marigold Street in Sun Valley, three days before the abduction.

NBI probers claimed the raid could have been a cover for an intensive surveillance on Dacer.

Immigration Commissioner Andrea Domingo claimed early this week that Dacer had called her to say that Estrada had berated him in Malacañang two days before he disappeared.

At Lacson's news conference, Angelito Banayo, former presidential adviser for political affairs, said Domingo's allegation came three months late.

"I was quite surprised by Commissioner Domingo's three-month late announcement. I was present when Bubby Dacer came to Malacañang. He was in the company of Congressman (Baby) Asistio and Ampy Henson," Banayo said.

He said he was seated in a table about eight meters away from where Dacer and Estrada were seated and "not once did I hear President Estrada raise his voice."

The meeting, he said, lasted for about 40 minutes. Banayo even recalled that Estrada led Dacer to the door, something which the deposed President did not usually do except to his close friends.

Militants . . .

(From page A1)

Akbayan thumbed down Santiago, Juan Ponce Enrile, Gregorio Honasan, Ricardo "Dong" Puno, Panfilo "Ping" Lacson, Edgardo Angara and Orlando Mercado, saying they had shown no heart for women in their careers as politicians or government officials.

Akbayan placed the seven senatorial candidates on the "trapo-macho" hitlist, urging Filipino women voters to ignore them in the May 14 elections because they have allegedly failed to promote such basic issues as the protection of women and children.

"In so many issues, these trapo-machos have shown their arrogance (by ignoring) the basic issues affecting women, like protection from domestic violence or the fight for reproductive rights," said Akbayan Rep. Loretta Ann Rosales in a press conference in Quezon City.

Rosales claimed that Santiago, though a woman herself, had in some instances displayed more of a macho and chauvinist outlook than the others.

"I'm afraid that even in her platform, she has not come up really with policies to push rights of women," she lamented.

She said that in their stint in the Senate, Enrile, Honasan and Santiago had not done anything to uphold women's rights or to support gender causes.

"But of them all, we dread to see Lacson in the Senate. He's the most macho of them all, as he proved when he was still the chief of the Philippine National Police," Rosales said.

She had kinder words for Angara and Mercado, but still said that their track records, as far as social justice and human rights were concerned, were not very impressive.

Jean Enriquez, chair of Akbayan Women, called on women voters "to study closely the platforms of these politicians, whether on the national or local level, and vote only for those who will fight for social justice."

Loi and Tessie

She cited, for instance, former first lady Luisa "Loi" Ejercito, whom she said should not be given any chance to wield political power.

"What kind of example will she be to Filipino women? She has been tremendously wronged by her husband, who is not only a womanizer but also very corrupt, yet she continues to defend him," Enriquez said.

Women from the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption denounced what they called ""boisterous and self-styled women leaders who pay lip service to truth and justice."

The VACC specified "arrogant women-politicians who dance their way around a life of extravagance and look down on 'inferior life forms' like the poor and downtrodden," in an apparent reference to Sen. Teresa Aquino-Oreta and her now infamous impeachment jig.

Fish and rice

Various women's groups in Metro Manila marked International Women's Day with rallies and pickets.

The militant women's group Gabriela picketed at Don Chino Roces (formerly Mendiola) Bridge near Malacañang yesterday to demand that President Macapagal-Arroyo release all political detainees, especially women and minors; arrest ousted President Joseph Estrada, his cronies and "crony mistresses"; and implement measures to arrest the economic crisis.

Women members of Sanlakas, for their part, partook a lunch of rice and dried fish, which they said was the only meal poor housewives could afford for their families nowadays.

Philips Semiconductors Phils., Inc. marks 20th year anniversary

In 1981, a 3,800 square meter line for LED and metal can transistors was put up in a converted warehouse in the Philips Lighting Plant in Las Piñas. Then known as Philips Components (Philippines) Inc., this small company's first batch of employees labored day in and out with three things in mind: customer satisfaction, world-class quality and continuous improvement.

Twenty years later, this customer-driven view of the world paid off. Now known as Philips Semiconductors Philippines, Inc. (PSPI), it has become a major assembly and test center for more than 5,000 different discrete products. It is also a recognized competence center for Power products, Broadband Communication and Base Station, RF Personal Communication and Consumer as well as General application products.

In between those years, PSPI employees kept on the right track towards excellence. They remained committed as they further strengthened their dedication towards their customers. Simply put, their credo has and will always be to meet and exceed their customers' expectations.

Because of its efforts, PSPI garnered numerous recognitions and awards – the first of which was the prestigious CECC Assembly Award in 1985. The same year, power components and modules were added to the company's product portfolio.

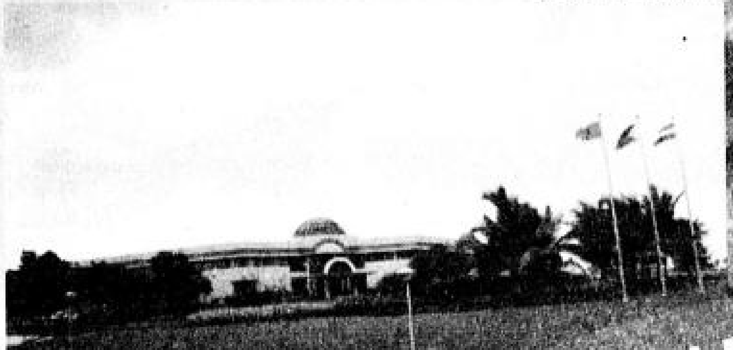
In 1987, Philips granted PSPI the Corporate International Quality Award. The year 1991 was also a memorable period for PSPI as it became the first Philippine company to be accredited by ISO 9000. At the same time, due to the company's growing business, its manufacturing area was expanded to 12,700 square meters.

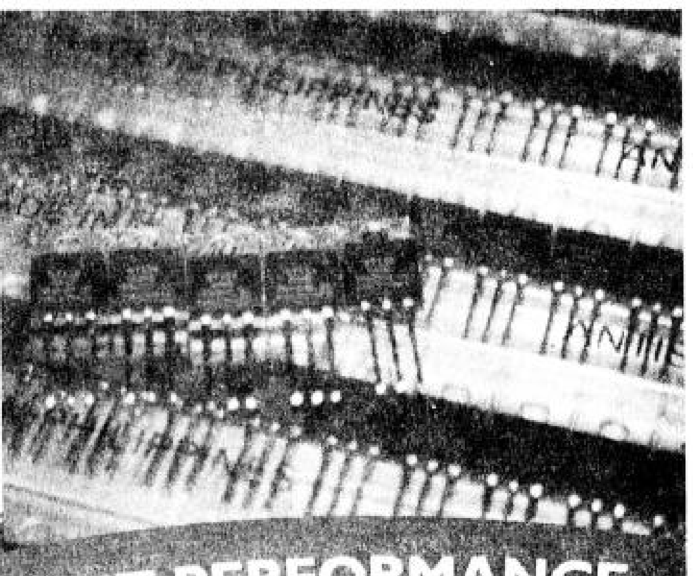
With its continued success, PSPI transferred to the nine-hectare Light Industry and Science Park facility in Laguna in 1995 where the manufacturing area was expanded to 30,000 square meters. The number of employees also grew to 2,700. A year later, the company received the internationally-recognized ISO 9001 certification.

PSPI, likewise made "history" when it became the first champion in the worldwide Quality Improvement Competition (QIC) of Philips Semiconductors in 1994. It duplicated the feat in 1995, becoming the only two-time QIC champion. Locally, PSPI has won the Philippine Quality Award Level II for its proficiency in quality management. It was also recognized by the Productivity Improvement Circle Association of the Philippines (PICAP) as its two quality improvement teams were hailed national champions in the PICAP Quality competitions in 1998 and 2000. PSPI was also recognized as one of the "billionaire" exporters of the Philippines for 1999 as well as one of the "Top Investors in 2000" in the country. Morevover, PSPI was awarded as one of the "20 Top Industries" in Laguna by the Office of the Provincial Governor.

Indeed, the string of international and local quality awards and customer recognitions which PSPI have received to date, are proof that the company has indeed gone a long way from its humble beginnings.

However, PSPI knows that this is not enough to make its customers happy. At the end of the day, each of the thousands of PSPI employees ask themselves: can they make their customers happier? And as the company celebrates its 20th year in the industry, PSPI realizes its work is neverending. Thus, with this realization comes a renewed promise: To make customers happier by working with excellence, speed and flexibility.





BEYOND 20 YEARS OF EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE

Georges Bobin
General Manager

It has been said that reaching the top is only half the battle. But staying there spells the difference between victory and defeat. At Philips Semiconductors Philippines, Inc. (PSPI), we keep this in mind as we mark our 20th year in upholding excellence in providing world class products.

PSPI is a success story crafted from two decades of customer intimacy. From its humble beginnings – assembling low-tech light emitting diodes (LED) and old metal can transistors in 1981 – there were three things drummed into the daily life of its hardworking employees: customer satisfaction, world class quality and continuous improvement.

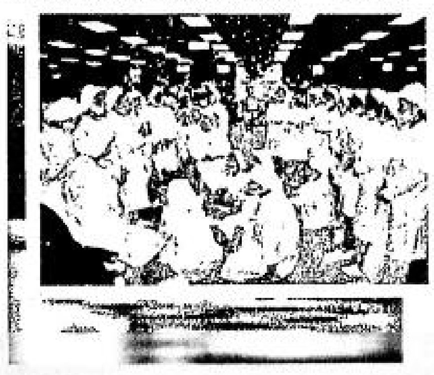
The result of this work ethic came in 1985 when PSPI received its first recognition for quality excellence – the CECC Assembly Award. From then on, business from the likes of Motorola, Ericsson, Nokia, Chrysler, General Motors, Ford, AT&T, Siemens, Bosch and Sony spurred the growth of PSPI, which beginning in the early 1990s, included assembly and test of power components and modules (RF, Video CATV).

Indeed, PSPI has gone a long way from the company it was 20 years ago. It is now a major assembly and test center for more than 5,000 different discrete products and has become a recognized competence center for Power products, Broadband Communication and Base Station, RF Personal Communication and Consumer as well as General application products. Its export value has grown to US$500 million and is continually growing by 10 to 30 percent every year. Our maturity is characterized by agreements we achieved in ISO 9000, ISO 14000, QS 9000, PQA 90 and Philippine Quality Award.

I am also proud of the committed involvement of the 4,000 PSPI people at all levels like TQM programs, QIC, QCC, SEIPI, ASEMEP, LISP Board of Locators.

So today, we are further strengthening our commitment to our customers. We have realized that apart from quality and price, our customers will be happier if we work with a sense of urgency. We know this is the only way to win in the next millenoium. It is the only way to staying on top.

Philips Semicon products: Proudly Philippine-made



Unknown to many, Philips Semiconductors Philippines Inc. (PSPI) assembles and tests four broad product lines for the world market. The numerous quality awards and international certifications awarded to PSPI attest to the excellence brought forth by the collective efforts of talented and skilled Pinoy workers at PSPI.

These world-class products which are proudly made in the Philippines include Power Transistors (both Bipolar and MOS) and Power Rectifiers (including silicon controlled rectifiers called Thyristors and Triacs) in more than 1,000 different types for the automotive, EDP, communications and consumer (TV/monitor, home appliances and lighting) market. Among its valued direct and indirect customers are Ford Motors, Chrysler and General Motors.

Broadband communication and base station products, on the other hand, have more than 300 different types for cable television, data processing for the electronic highway and cellular base station applications. The main users of these products are Philips Product Divisions, Motorola and Nokia for cellular base stations and general instrument (Next level Systems)/Scientific Atlanta for cable TV amplifiers.

PSPI also produces RF personal communication and consumer products which have about 50 different types for the hand-held/cellular phones and video monitors market. The main users are Philips Product Divisions, Nokia for the cellular phones and Mitsubishi/Sony for the computer monitors market.

Moreover, PSPI manufactures a mixture of high volume glass diodes, ceramic package diodes and magnetic sensors in more than 300 different types for the communication, general and industrial electronics and automotive industries. Main users of these products include Ericsson, Nokia and Continental Teves, a supplier to major automotive companies.

Philips receives two prestigious awards from DTI

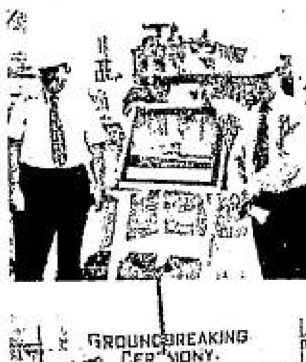
For two consecutive years, Philips Semiconductors Philippines, Inc. (PSPI) has been taking centerstage as the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) named the company as one of the country's top exporters in 1999 and presented it with the Philippine Quality Award (PQA) Level II last year.

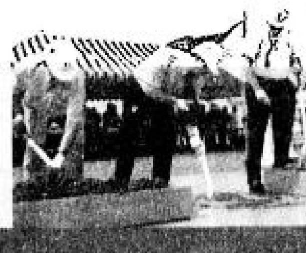
"Throughout the years, PSPI has continuously surpassed its annual export sales and we are very proud of this achievement. In 1997, PSPI's actual exports amounted to more than US$300 million, increasing to US$500 million after a short span of two years," said Philips Semiconductors Cabuyao general manager Georges Bobin, who received the top exporter award at Malacañang Palace.

PSPI's latest award, the PQA, was given in recognition of the company's proficiency in quality management. The PQA system, which honors organizations that have achieved the highest level of quality and business excellence, lauded PSPI's Philips Business Excellence (PBE) Model for meeting the PQA Level II criteria of documenting a solid approach to system-level Quality and Productivity management and for achieving significant progress in building sound processes in the organization.

"We have achieved our targets and I am optimistic that we will experience more growth for 2001 as we continue to work hard in the coming years," said Bobin.

Philips allots P12.8-B for Semiconductors expansion program in RP





While "making things better," Philips has also managed to make life better for the thousands of Filipinos who are currently being provided with employment opportunities. Awarded by the Department of Trade and Industry as the 1999 Top Exporter, PSPI has strengthened its commitment towards contributing to the economic growth of the Philippines via its P12.8 billion expansion program.

Part of this program is the construction of PSPI's new production facility at the Light Industry and Science Park I (LISP) special economic zone in Laguna.

The new building, which starts operations by middle of this year, will be devoted to the manufacture and assembly of Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA), Multiple Band GSM and Bluetooth (BT) system modules for export to Europe, Asia-Pacific, and the U.S. These products are used in mobile personal telecommunication systems, medical systems and multimedia applications.

Once fully operational, PSPI expects to generate US$59 million in net foreign exchange earnings yearly from a projected export sales of US$150 million annually.

Let's make things better.

PHILIPS

D'guete bets eye twin kill

BY JUNE NAVARRO

POWERHOUSE Foundation University of Dumaguete is gearing for a twin kill after its bets reigned supreme yesterday in the First Nestea Beach Volley National Open at the CCP grounds.

Only last week, the Negrenses topped the Fifth Nestea Beach Volley University Challenge by booking a semifinals ticket in Boracay Island on April 21-22.

Yesterday, Eduard Balbuena and Isidro Bongcasan shamed second-seeded General Santos City, 21-16, 18-21, 15-10, before wielding the upset ax on the Zambales Crabs, seeded eighth, 21-14, 21-19, to tow the field in the tournament sanctioned by the Philippine Amateur Volleyball Association.

Balbuena and Bongcasan gun for a semifinal slot today when they collide with Cebu Wild Duck's Ray Acojedo and Jasper Jimenez.

Similarly, Acojedo and Jimenez trounced their respective opponents, beating Far Eastern University in straight sets, 26-24, 23-21, to set up the duel against the Negrenses.

"Considering the tough field, we are not expecting anything in this tournament," said the 24-year-old Balbuena, a fourth year BS Agriculture student. "We're just having fun."

Their expectation level discouraged, Balbuena and Bongcasan just played to their hearts' content without noticing that everything went beyond their plan of using the event as a tune-up for the University Challenge.

"Since we're already here, we'll just have to beat every obstacle along the way. Who knows, we might win this one," said the timid Balbuena, who with Bongcasan placed third in last year's edition of the Beach Volley Intercollegiate.

In the women's side, defending intercollegiate titlists Jennifer Buhawe and Sheryl Tumayao of San Sebastian College signaled their intentions of occupying the summit, scoring a hard-earned 21-10, 19-21, 15-12 triumph over Air Force III's Alarnie Puylong and Jennie Montesino.

Air Force I also shared the limelight by downing De La Salle University in straight sets, 21-12, 21-19, later in the day. Powered by a looker of a spiker in actress Isabel Granada, Air Force recovered lost ground following a default against Air Force III.

MOVIE actress Isabel Granada of Air Force dives for the ball during yesterday's First Nestea Beach Volley National Open.
ERNIE SARMIENTO

PBA ALL-FILIPINO CUP

Pumaren debuts for Tanduay

STANDINGS	W	L
San Miguel	6	2
Red Bull	5	2
Shell	5	2
Ginebra	4	3
Alaska	4	4
Pop Cola	3	4
Purefoods	3	5
Tanduay	3	5
Sta. Lucia	2	5
Mobiline	2	5

GAMES TODAY *(Philsports)*
5:15 p.m. – Tanduay vs Ginebra
7:30 p.m. – Shell vs Red Bull

BY MARC ANTHONY REYES

DINDO Pumaren makes his debut when Tanduay Gold takes on Barangay Ginebra, while Shell Velocity and Batang Red Bull aim for a piece of the lead in the PBA All-Filipino Cup today at Philsports.

Pumaren, 35, said he hopes to end his career with the Rhummasters, who will groom him to be one of the assistant coaches of his brother Derrick.

But whether his arrival to Tanduay's camp will make a difference will be known today against Ginebra, which lately has been displaying the fire missing in the franchise for the past few seasons.

The Gin Kings beat the Rhummasters in their first outing (84-72) in Urdaneta City, Pangasinan wherein Tanduay took command for the first three quarters only to yield to Ginebra's strong finish anchored on Vergel Meneses.

Tonight, though, will be a different story since Tanduay will now have a reliable pointguard in Pumaren plus the fact that the Rhummasters are coming off a rousing 88-85 double overtime victory over Sta. Lucia Realty.

The Gin Kings are reeling over a 79-72 loss to Red Bull but are already gunning for a fifth win, which they didn't achieve until the final elimination game of this conference last season.

Nevertheless, the Rhummasters and the Gins are on equal footing with each other since Tanduay is worst in free-throw shooting among all teams (65.3 percent), while Ginebra has the lowest three-point accuracy (21.7 percent) and assist average (14 per game).

In the other game, the Turbochargers and Thunder eye to extend their similar two-game winning run in an attempt to share the top spot with idle San Miguel Beer (6-2).

PBL players transfer shifts to high gear

BY DENNIS EROA

TWO NEW recruits bolster Hapee Toothpaste, even as rookie team Osaka Iridology brings in a battle-tested guard as players' movement shifts into high gear in the PBL.

And hardworking power forward Fracis Zamora, owner of two championships playing for bemedalled Welcoat, packed his bags and transferred to Montaña Jewels, third placer in the Chairman's Cup.

Team manager Bernard Yang said former MBA players Julius Binuya and Allan Salangsang, both 6-foot-5, will don Hapee's colors in the Chairman's Cup set to start on March 24 at the Makati Coliseum.

Yang said Binuya, a former San Beda Red Lion who saw action for the Nueva Ecija Patriots, and Salangsang, who cut a promising collegiate career short to hook up with the Iloilo Megavoltz, will solve Hapee's matchup problems.

Binuya will team up with Junie Lopez and Alwyn Espiritu in banging up the boards. Despite his size, Salangsang possesses deadly shooting arms which will boost Hapee's firepower.

Osaka failed to hurdle the eliminations mainly because of the lack of a reliable substitute to playmaker Ronald Cuan.

The Iridologists recruited spitfirish Jessie Cabanayan, who had a forgettable two-year stint in the PBA. Remaining with the team are power-playing Adonis Sta. Maria, Bernzon Franco, Willy Wilson and sharpshooter Alvin Castro.

Luzon bets set records

ANGELES CITY—Just when National Capital Region (NCR) started to party, Luzon struck anew in athletics, setting two of five new meet records Thursday in the Private Schools Athletics Association (Prisaa) here.

Though beaten in swimming in last Tuesday's opening hostilities, the Luzon tracksters produced 11 more gold medals including a sweep of two relay finals.

Luzon's second-day rampage in athletics was led by Crescencio Sabal's record-triumph in the men's 10,000 meter run which eclipsed the old 10:07.6 mark set by Teddy Danoy with a 9:33.7 clocking.

Sabal, a management student at the La Salle-Dasmariñas in Cavite, thus became the meet's first double gold medalist following his earlier victory in 3,000 meter steeplechase Tuesday.

Luzon's other record feat came in the men's discus throw event with 20-year-old Philip Salaysay of Perpetual Help-Biñan setting higher standard with his 36.97 to erase the 35.74 norm of Benedict Teodoro.

OSAKA SISTER TEAM

Guardo Shiatsu stuns Lhuillier in CBL

CEBU CITY—Following a hurting 83-89 setback to sister team Osaka Iridology, Guardo Shiatsu bounced back via an 83-74 shocker over highly touted M. Lhuillier Jewelers yesterday in the 2001 CBL President's Cup at the New Cebu Coliseum.

The victory, the Reflexologists' second win in three games, gave the Jewelers their worst start in years as they are now in an unfamiliar 1-2 mark in this event sponsored by Thursty, Nature's Spring, Adidas, Coca Cola, Sunsport, POW Designs, Carmen Piramide of BBC's Printshop, Y101 FM, Charlie@Rhythms, Angel Radyo, Killer Bee, Spirit FM, DYRF and Freeman.

Guardo Shiatsu struck well from the outside and employed the same four cornered offensive tactics they used in beating Chariot Power Cabs, 83-72, on opening day.

Christophel Abellana, a former Chowking and Shark Energy Drink pointguard, shone against his taller rivals, drilling in eight of his 19 points in the final quarter that gave Guardo a seven-point lead, 81-74, in the last 20 seconds.

Junnel Maglasang and Alex Cainglet likewise showed consistency, scoring 14 and 12 points, respectively, in leading the Reflexologists' first triumph over the Jewelers since joining the league last year.

"We ran a lot and the Jewelers failed to catch up. Likewise, most of our shots fell in. Apparently, the boys got the confidence they needed after that opening day victory over the Chariot Econo Cabs. We really came out prepared tonight and our sacrifices paid off," said Guardo Shiatsu coach Jake Rojas.

Scores:

GUARDO 83—Abellana 19, Maglasang 14, Cainglet 12, Elim 12, Tejano 7, Mosqueda 6, Suarez 4, Arano 3, Toring 2, Duhig 2.

M. LHUILLIER 74—Paraiso 16, Dumdum 14, Alvarado 11, Jaca 9, Smith 8, Ocanada 7, Almote 3, Alforque 4. Halftime: 42-39.

Lakers subdue Raptors

LOS ANGELES—Kobe Bryant scored 17 of his 29 points in the third quarter and the Los Angeles Lakers rallied to beat the Toronto Raptors 97-85 in the NBA Wednesday night for their eighth consecutive home win.

The Lakers' fourth straight victory also moved them within a half-game of idle Portland for the Pacific Division lead.

After falling behind by six in the third quarter, Bryant came alive during a 15-2 run that gave the Lakers the lead for good.

Shaquille O'Neal added 25 points and 10 rebounds.

Jazz 86, SuperSonics 82

In Salt Lake City, Karl Malone scored 26 points and the Utah Jazz blitzed Seattle with a dominant second quarter before holding off a late rally.

John Starks hit four free throws in the final 17.6 seconds after the Sonics trimmed a nine-point deficit to 82-79 on Gary Payton's driving layup and 84-82 on a 3-pointer by Vin Baker with 10.6 seconds to play.

After each of those baskets, Starks was fouled and stepped up to the line to sink his free throws. The Jazz swept the four-game season series against Seattle for the first time ever.

Meanwhile, Indiana's Reggie Miller was suspended for one game and fined $ 10,000 by the NBA on Wednesday for hitting a referee with a wad of chewing gum.

In the Pacers' game at New York on Tuesday, Miller received a technical foul midway through the fourth quarter, left the game with 1:58 to go and hurled a wad of gum that struck referee Eddie F. Rush in the back of the head.

"I haven't seen the tape. I just heard about an hour ago he wasn't going to play," Indiana coach Isiah Thomas said before the team's home against the Knicks Wednesday.

In another development, Lamar Odom of the Los Angeles Clippers and Isaiah Rider of the Los Angeles Lakers were suspended for five games each by the NBA on Wednesday for violating the league's anti-drug program.

No further details were given. The NBA is not allowed to disclose information about the testing or treatment of any player in the program.

Complete results: Philadelphia 102, New Jersey 94; Milwaukee 101, Boston 94; New York 79, Indiana 75; Dallas 93, Miami 86; Washington 88, Cleveland 83; Orlando 112, Detroit 102; Houston 104, Atlanta 98; Sacramento 100, Phoenix 89; Utah 86, Seattle 82; L.A. Lakers 97, Toronto 85. *AP*

Swimming clinics up

THE BERT Lozada Swimming Program, a comprehensive learn-how-to-swim program designed to train non-swimmers, will start on March 16.

Now on its 13th year, the BLSP will be held in Metro Manila, Tarlac, Taytay, Cavite and Laguna.

Among the graduates of the program are 2000 Olympian Jenny Guerrero and Batang Pinoy champion Ronald Guirriba.

For inquiries, interested parties may call up Angelo Lozada at tel. nos. 563-55-32 or 564-4648.

Meanwhile, the Manila Seahawks Swimming Club will host the Luzon Swimming League on March 24-25 at the Philippine Columbian Association swimming pool.

Organizer Angelo Lozada said the age-group meet will be for Class A and B swimmers. On tap are the 50m and 100m in the butterfly, breaststroke, backstroke and freestyle events in all age groups and classes.

Pasay derby tonight

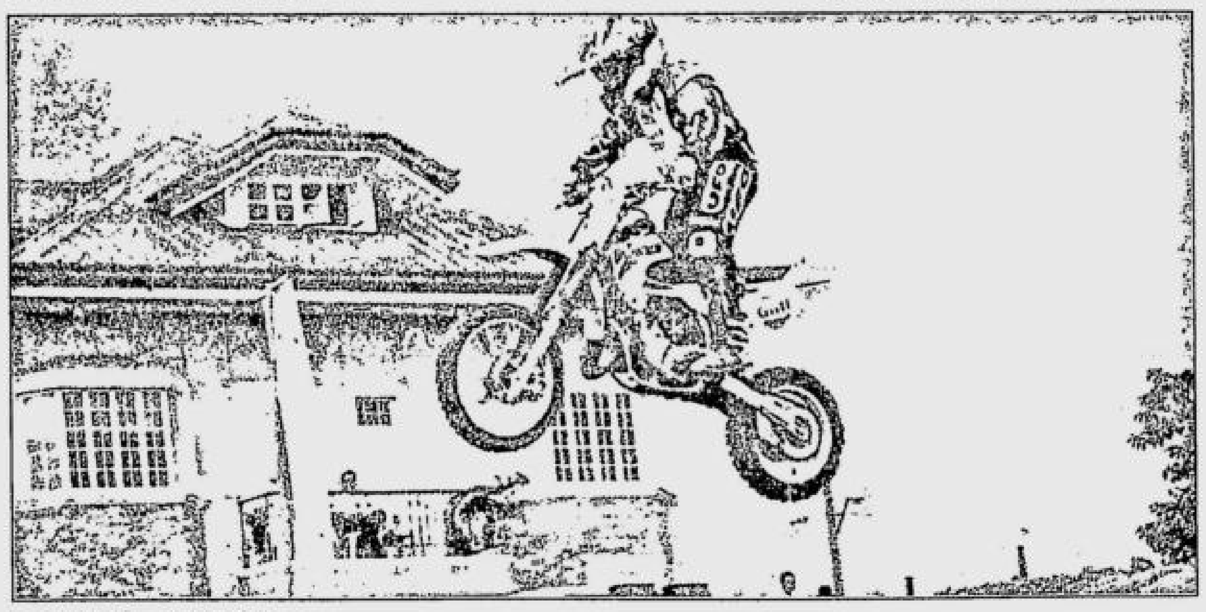
A GUARANTEED prize of P300,000 is at stake in another explosive 4-cock derby at Pasay City Cockpit, beginning at 7 tonight.

PCC pit managers Oscar Gonzales, Eric dela Rosa and Butchoy Olano said more than 60 topnotch fights are lined up today. Required entry fee is P10,000.

Hosting the event are Bobby Cabillon and the Seat JM Grup, fresh from ruling the 35-entry 4-cock derby last week after collecting 3 wins and a draw.

Among the favorites today are the entries of Joey Jao, Lito Roque, William Co, Lito Orillaza, Boy de Roca, Danny Ty, Louie Cua, Peter Lingat, Boy Corcuera, Tanggol Eusebio, Cito Manansala, Manuel Polo, Johnny Elorde and Mayor Nene Aguilar, among others.

For inquiries, call 816-6750, 843-1890 and 843-1746.



YOUNG CHAMP

Kenneth San Andres of Gulf Oil-Viajero-Triumph Marketing Racing Team negotiates a tricky portion during the mini category race in the first leg of the PLDT presents MAD (Mamamayan Ayaw sa Droga) Motocros Super Series in Fort Bonifacio recently. San Andres, the 12-year-old elementary student of St. Louie College (Valenzuela), swept both races to take the early lead in this 12-part series organized by Hartebeest Entertainment Corp.

Dancesport in the grassroots

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

DANCESPORT, also known as balloon dancing in society circle, is going places and getting bigger and better all the time.

To illustrate: From a lean, uninterested field of only 30 couples who entered the inaugural competition of the Dance Sport Council of the Philippines in 1996, there are now more than 100 dance athletes that will be showing their savvy in Subic on Saturday, March 17.

Billed as the 2nd Quarterly Ranking and Competition-Alaxan Cup, Saturday's Subic bash will mark the council's first major activity for the year 2001. This out-of-town sortie, aimed at promoting the sport in the grassroots, will feature several veteran internationalists and many young and promising dancers all over the country, including newcomers from Baguio City.

The blue-ribbon affair will be highlighted with a dancesport workshop to be conducted by licensed coach Scott Todd on March 15-16 at the George Dewey Theater, the competition venue where UK professional ballroom champions Mirko and Marika Selli will perform a dance number on Saturday.

"We are now moving towards professionalizing the ballroom dancing industry and training potential and talented dancers for competitions abroad," said tireless council president Becky Garcia. She said the council, despite its limited resources, has invited foreign coaches to teach local dancers the international style to make them globally competitive. "We have a lot of good dancers, but sadly they would rather remain as dance instructors and earn money than make it to the international scene as competitors for their country."

The council has also invited licensed adjudicators to conduct seminars to train judges for local competitions, apart from sending teams abroad and staging national and Asian tournaments.

"Dancesport has indeed come a long, long way," proudly beamed lawyer Noel Laman, council chair, while expressing the group's gratitude to Philippine Sports Commission chair Butch Tuason for providing DSCP with a world-class training center at the Philsports Complex (formerly Ultra) in Pasig City.

Five years ago, in 1996 to be exact, DSCP joined the Germany-based International Dancesport Federation, the ruling body for amateur dancesport recognized by the International Olympic Committee, and the World Dance and Dance Sport Council, the governing body for professionals with headquarters in London. This move was chiefly aimed at making Filipino ballroom dancers competitive in international meets.

Since then, local dancers have become a force to reckon with. Latin partners John Co and Belinda Adora are now ranked among the best in Asia while talented teen dancers such as junior Latin national champions John Erolle Melencio and Krystel Dame Tadeo and the promising pair of Rener Mercado and Judith Anne Melencio have made their presence felt in the world of dance.

"Right now, we are concentrating on discovering and training the youth because they are the future of dancesport," said Garcia, who heads the council board composed of June Herrera, lawyer Jo Saliva, Andy Fornier and Glo Alcala.

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Lady Queen 2. Waving Oscar/Woman's Task 3. Ground Fighter/Boy from Brazil 4. Don Benito

Race 2—1. Charisma 2. Running Indy 3. Dressed to Impress

Race 3—1. Mrs. Big 2. Extraordinaire 3. Aya's Dream 4. Arrogante 5, Summer Dreams

Race 4—1. Soloist 2. D Optician 3. Sir Louie 4. Solitaire 5. Winning Heart

Race 5—1. Dr. Jones 2. Pep Talk 3. Glory Be 4. Majestic Ruler

Race 6—1. Fortune Maker/Party Princess 2. Wings of Gold 3. Top Dancer 4. Jhelen 5. Ayra's Pet

Race 7—1. Freshman 2. Kitty Bang Bang 3. Law Student 4. Jazz Queen 5. Gold and Dollar

Race 8—1. Wine and Roses 2. Sand Splash 3. Bells of Hope 4. Hurry Prince 5. Amazing Joe

Race 9—1. Maria Nevada 2. Native Talent 3. Tellmetonight 4. Legitimo 5. Enjoy the Moment

TIP netters prevail

TECHNOLOGICAL Institute of the Philippines netters swept past their respective rivals to rule the Colleges and Universities Sports Association (CUSA) badminton tournament recently at the TIP Sports Center. TIP men's team easily defeated teams from University of Assumption-Pampanga, Trinity College, Central Colleges of the Philippines and Metro Manila College.

SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ▩ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

Agassi's conqueror falls

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona —Magnus Norman beat Jose Acasuso aside 6-3, 6-1 in a second-round match at the Franklin Templeton Tennis Classic yesterday. Harel Levy of Israel defeated Australian Andrew Ilie 6-7 (6), 6-1, 6-2 a day after Ilie eliminated three-time Scottsdale champion Andre Agassi in the first round. *AP*

INTER-CITIES CHESS

Mandaluyong A tops semis

ANTONIO: Back-to-back victories.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Leaders after Round 8

7.0 points — Mandaluyong A
6.5 points – Manila
6.0 points—Baguio
5.5 points—Iloilo, Davao, Panabo, Muntinlupa A, Manila-SSC
5.0 points—Muntinlupa B, Bacolod, Antipolo, Dagupan, Bocaue

BY ROY LUARCA

MANILA dealt favorite Mandaluyong A its first defeat and proceeded to join its victim in today's knockout semifinals of the 2001 National Inter-Cities and Municipalities Chess Team Championship at the Kaban ng Hiyas Auditorium, Mandaluyong City.

Striking on the lower boards, Manila stunned Mandaluyong A, 3-1, in Round 7 Wednesday and followed it up with a 2.5-1.5 conquest of Muntinlupa B in Round 8 yesterday to jack its total to 6.5 points with one round left in the elimination phase.

Mandaluyong A, powered by GM Joey Antonio, charged right back with a 2.5-1.5 victory over Bacolod City to keep the top spot with 7 points in the tournament sponsored by Viva Mineral Water, Unilab Inc., DILG, PSC and Mandaluyong City.

Antonio, who prevented a Manila sweep by tripping IM-candidate Richard Bitoon in Board 1, again anchored Mandaluyong A's triumph yesterday by disposing of NM Rogelio Atotubo. IM Idelfonso Datu provided support by downing NM Rodolfo Toledo in Board 2.

Deaf-mute sensation Lionel Tubianoa drew with Ted Ian Montoyo in Board 3 while Round 6 hero Edmundo Gatus yielded to Glenn Francis Panes for Mandaluyong A's lone loss in Round 8.

With Round 9 still being played at presstime, Mandaluyong A and Manila are assured of slots in the four-team semifinals featuring the top qualifier against the fourth finisher and the No. 2 team versus the No.3. The winners will then dispute the P100,000 top prize starting at 2 p.m.

Round 8's biggest gainer turned out to be the GM Eugene Torre-led Baguio City, which shut out Manila-SSC, 4-0, to vault to 6 points.

Torre, president of the National Chess Federation of the Philippines, dumped NM Ronald Dableo. Torre's teammates—NM Rolando Nolte, Rolly Yutuc and Rex Ami—followed suit with victories over their respective opponents.

Baguio and 5.5 pointers Davao, Manila-SSC, Iloilo, Muntinlupa A and Panabo (Davao del Norte) are battling it out for the third and fourth semifinal spots.

Iloilo whipped Guagua, 3.5-0.5; Davao tied with Bocaue, 2-2; Panabo thwarted Angeles (Air Force) A, 2.5-1.5 and Muntinlupa stopped Tagbilaran, 2.5-1.5, in Round 8 to stay in contention.

The tournament, which drew 48 teams, ends today with a simple closing ceremony to be graced by NCFP officials and Mandaluyong Mayor Benhur Abalos. Also invited are Alberto Manlapit, SVP/Corporate Affairs Officer of San Miguel Corp., and Popoy Los Baños of Unilab Inc.

Dayrit to SEA nations: Jalasco is BAP prexy

BY JUNE NAVARRO

THE PHILIPPINE Olympic Committee delivered the killing blows to Quintellano "Tiny" Literal's bid of spearheading the Southeast Asian Basketball Association in the country after the Olympic body notified yesterday the National Olympic Committees of the participating countries not to honor anything from Literal's camp.

POC secretary general Romeo Ribaño yesterday sent letters to the NOCs of Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei and Indonesia, informing them that the POC only recognizes the Basketball Association of the Philippines of Freddie Jalasco and no one else.

"The NOCs of these countries called us up to ask if the faction of Literal is the one recognized by the POC," POC president Celso Dayrit told the INQUIRER. "And we told them that as far as the POC is concerned Jalasco is still the BAP president."

The POC also furnished a copy of the letter to International Basketball Association (Fiba) president Boris Slav Stankovic, also notifying the sport's world governing body that all transactions entered into by the BAP should have the imprimatur of Jalasco.

Still, Literal said he was hell-bent on hosting the tournament, which will run from April 2-7, with or without the aid of the Philippine Sports Commission and the recognition of the POC.

He said his BAP would exhaust all means to continue the tournament in order to prevent humiliation from other countries after Jalasco backed out from hosting the event two weeks back.

Jalasco said the POC move was the result of Literal's act to question the POC's power and authority.

In another development, the POC will draft a proposal to President (Gloria Macapagal) Arroyo with respect to the country's hosting of the 2005 Southeast Asian Games.

Dayrit said the POC would propose a multi-agency task force tasked to lay the groundwork for the 2005 SEA Games.

Aside from the PSC, Dayrit said other government institutions such as the Department of Tourism, Department of Public Highways, DECS, Dept. of Budget and National Economic Development Authority will form the nucleus of the task force.

No US trip for Pacquiao

THE PLAN of campaigning in the United States may take a backseat for the meantime as Manny Pacquiao has another scheduled title defense of his WBC International super bantamweight crown.

This was bared yesterday by international promoter Gabriel "Bebot" Elorde Jr., saying he's staging another triple WBC international championships on April 28.

Pacquiao takes the challenge of Wethya Sakmuangklang of Thailand in a 12-round encounter.

The venue has yet to be determined and will be announced later.

'My Love'

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

MY HEART beats for Eugene Torre. The guy has been as busy as a bee, so to speak, the past few months to push the National Chess Federation of the Philippines to the nation's consciousness. As we all know by now, Eugene is president of the NCFP. The NCFP replaced the Philippine Chess Federation late last year as the duly-recognized member of the Philippine Olympic Committee.

Tonight, Eugene's first major tournament—the National Inter-Cities and Municipalities Chess Team Championships—will end at the Kaban ng Hiyas Auditorium in Mandaluyong City. Eugene was both player (for Baguio) and organizer of the tournament.

"My work has just begun," said Eugene. "My dream is to make our chess association a real success. I want it to be very active so that our chess players will always have something to look forward to. It's been quite a long time now that we never had enough tournaments. *Napurol iyong marami sa amin.*"

Eugene was thrust into the presidency of the NCFP to save the sport from sure death. His election materialized following the courageous efforts of many chess buffs that included 13-year Fide president Florencio Campomanes to convince the World Chess Federation (Fide) to dump the PCF in favor of the NCFP.

Before the birth of NCFP, Eugene was principally holed up in Baguio City where he and wife "My Love" and daughter Nicole had been residing for years now. Eugene virtually lived like a hermit in the Pines City due to the lack—if not the absence—of tournaments. It is only when former world champion Bobby Fischer, who is based in Hungary, would call to request him to act as his second during the rare times that the American genius would play in a tournament that Eugene gets to leave the country.

"I'm back," said Eugene. "Not just as a player but as the father of our country's chess association. It's hard *kasi parang nanganganay ako.* But chess is my love. I will do everything to put chess back to its rightful place in the country."

Eugene said he would not have been successful with his first major venture "without the big help of Viva Mineral Water and Unilab."

As a result of Eugene's renewed vigor for the sport that has made him Asia's first grandmaster in 1974 during a brilliant stint in the Nice (France) Chess Olympiad, Torre now sparingly goes back home to Baguio.

"*Galit na nga si* 'My Love' e," said Eugene, referring to his wife, Marilin.

But knowing Marilin, she wouldn't mind Eugene's extended stays in Manila. Long before she married Eugene, Marilin knew that Eugene's first—and last—love is chess.

"My Love will always understand that's why she has remained as my one and only inspiration," said Eugene. "I love chess but the inspiration for it will always be 'My Love.'"

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

BASKETBALL: US NCAA - ACC Tournament, 1st Rd at 8 a.m., QF #1 tomorrow at 1 a.m., QF #3 tomorrow at 3:30 a.m., AT&T Big East Tournament, QF #4 at 10 a.m., QF #3 at 1 p.m. on ESPN
NBA - San Antonio Spurs vs Portland Trailblazers at 9 a.m. (r- 9 p.m.) on Star Sports
NBA Inside Stuff at 8:30 p.m. on Star Sports
GOLF: PGA Genuity Championship, Tour Highlights at 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. (r) on Star Sports

Harris Cup at Midlands

THE 5TH Paul Harris Cup Golf Tournament, organized by the Rotary Club of Makati Ayala to honor the memory and accomplishments of the founder of Rotary, will be played April 2 at the Tagaytay Midlands Golf and Country Club. This was learned from Makati Ayala president Paul Chuatico.

Paul Harris was born on April 19, 1898 in Racine, Wisconsin, USA.

In 1905, as a young lawyer in Chicago, he founded a club of young men of different businesses and professions—men who wanted to be friends and be helpful to each other.

The club was called "rotary" since they were meeting in rotation at each other's offices.

Membership in the Chicago Rotary Club grew rapidly, attracting men who had achieved business success.

Today, the Rotary movement includes 1.18 million members in 163 countries.

Entry in the prestigious tournament, sponsored by CGU Insurance, ING Life Insurance, Aetna Healthcare and PLDT is limited to Rotary clubs and Rotarians in good standing. Other backers of the tournament are BJ Marthel International, Broadband Philippines, Victoria Linens, Nestle, Transworld Trading, YKK, PET Plans, Calingasan Construction and Birch Tree Milkpowder.

Competition will be conducted in both team and individual categories. Teams shall be composed of three or four Rotarians with the best three scores counting as the team's score.

The team competition will use the Stableford system of scoring. For individual play, the field will be divided into four groups, Division A for handicaps of 0-12, B for 13-20, C for 21-27 and D for those without handicaps.

Organizing committee chair Ramon Mayuga said that the proceeds from the Paul Harris Cup would benefit Makati Ayala's various community service projects in Pampanga and Bonifacio.

Interested Rotary clubs and Rotarians are invited to call the Paul Harris secretariat on tel. no. 848-1245 (to 50) and 848-1473.

INAUGURAL
Robert Concepcion, top honcho of Coffel Aire, is poised to hit his tee shot during the 1st Coffel Aire Golf Tournament held at the Riviera Golf and Country Club's Couples course on Wednesday. Concepcion hopes to make the tournament an annual affair "for the friends of Coffel Aire."

Vanguards play at Forest Hills

SOME 80 leading figures from business, military, information technology, medical and legal professions are expected to grace the UP Vanguard-Forest Hills golf tournament today at Fil Estate's Forest Hills Golf and Country Club in Antipolo City.

Lawyer Gilbert Reyes, UP Vanguard national president, said the roster of participants in the tournament include IBM Asia regional president Ramon Jocson, Ayala executive Mark Javier, GMA-7 vice president Dan Albert de Padua, Quezon City Judge Apolinario Bruselas, retired AFP general Jose Magno, former Agriculture Secretary Sonny Escudero, Cagayan solon Edgar Lara and Rep. Sonny Alvarez.

Reyes said the tournament, sponsored by Fil-Estate Group of Companies, Globe Telecom, Bridgetone Tires, Nextel Communications Philippines Inc., Eastern Telecommunication Philippines Inc., and Forest Hills Golf & Country Club, is a prelude to the annual homecoming of the UP Vanguard, the alumni association of the graduates of the ROTC advanced course of the State University.

Also expected to attend the tournament are business finance executive Edwin Fernandez, Customs officials Reynaldo Nicolas and Tony Bautista, real estate executive Renato Lirio and heart surgeons Gerardo Manzo and Jaime Esquivel.

Reyes said valuable prizes await the winners. There are also special prizes for hole-in-one, longest drive, most accurate and nearest to the pin.

ASIA INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS, INC. AiA
presents
www.asia-intl-auctioneers.com
asiainc@svisp.com
The BEST MACHINES FROM JAPAN; U.S., AUSTRALIA, EUROPE & KOREA!
25 - CRANES
MITSUBISHI K252 25T TRUCK CRANE
50 - MOTOR GRADERS
1 OF 3 MITSUBISHI LG2H
30 - FORKLIFTS
KOMATSU FD50 (5T)
20 - ALUM. VAN TRUCKS
1 OF 5 ISUZU 10W ALUM. VAN TRUCK
C.B.U.
TRUCKS & EQUIPMENT
UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION
MARCH 28, 29 & 30, 2001
INSPECTION: MAR. 25-27
Auction Style: PARADE
Call us in MANILA at 531-5751 | 5789 | 5061, or in SUBIC at (047) 252-3333 | 7936 | 6841 • FAX # (047) 252-6840
NO MINIMUM PRICE • ALL MUST GO • TAXES & DUTIES PAID

Hurry!
Don't miss out on these fantastic offers.
Visit your Makro Store now!

makro mail

2001-05

OFFER AVAILABLE FROM FEB. 28 - MARCH 13, 2001

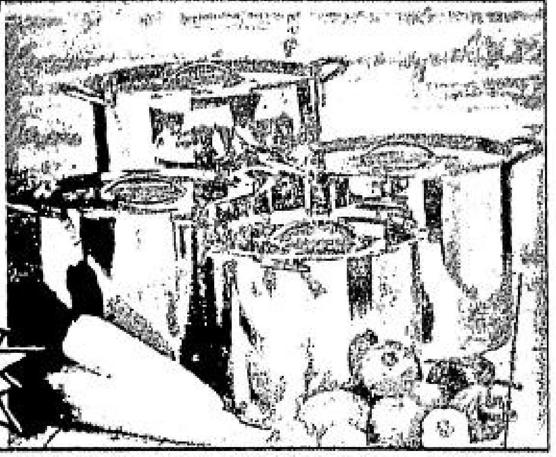
OPEN EVERYDAY 7 AM TO 9 PM
MAKRO PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE 10% VAT.

Be a member now!

makro 5th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

FUKUDA
Video CD Player
#2228, Single Disc
with Amplifier, MP3

P1,995



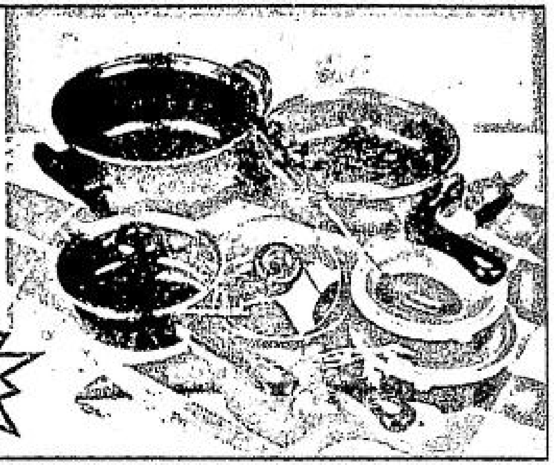
555 Stockpot
8 pc. Set

P619

FREE
Canon
Prima Camera
BF9D

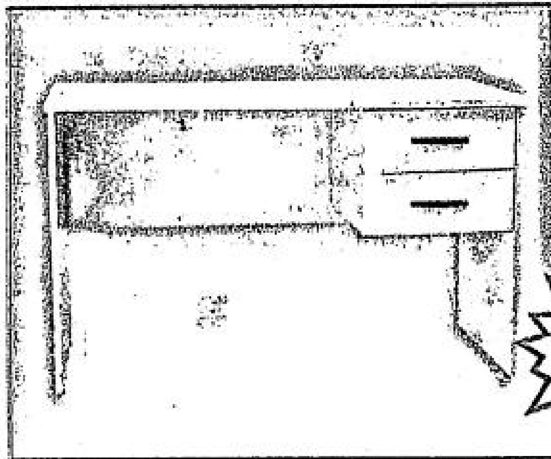
CANNON
Portable Copier
FC220S

P15,995



Nonstick Cookware
10 pc. Set
(Frypan, Casserole,
Mixing Bowl, Spatula)

P319

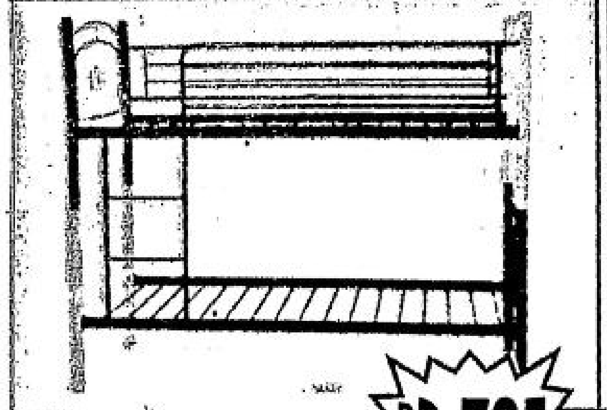


NB Office Table
Grey Color

P995

ARIEL
Powerwash
Sachet Strip
32 G., 36's

P139



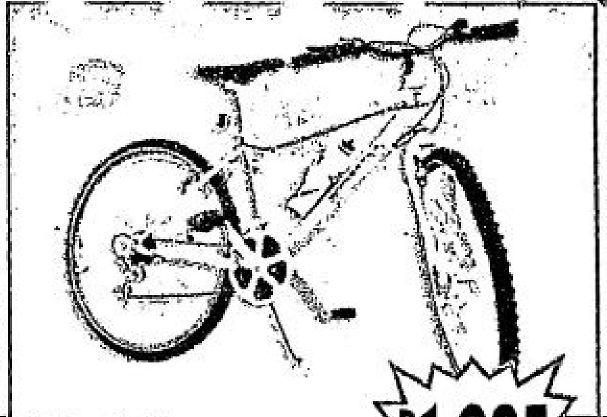
MICKY
Double Deck Bed

P2,795

FREE
Tool Box

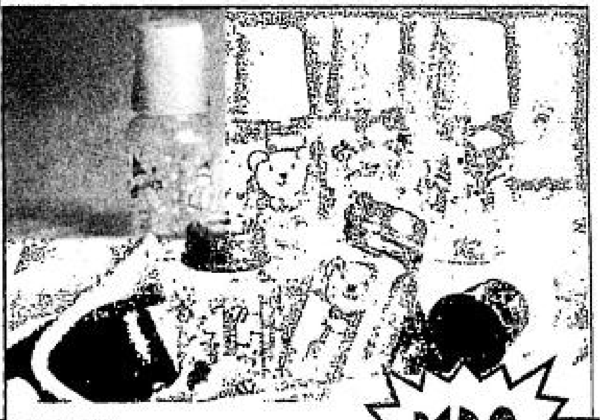
KYK
Reversible Drill, TD8155
Grinder, TG8302

P2,995



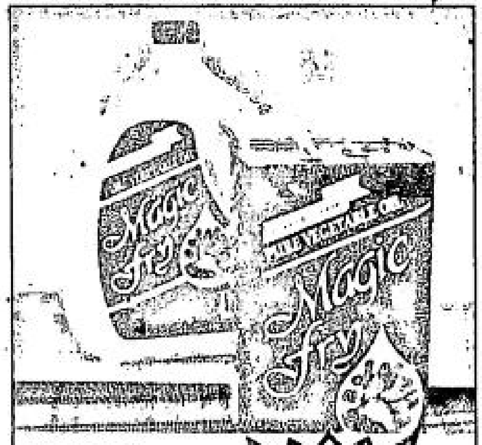
NB Mountain Bike
18 Speed. Size 26
All Steel

P1,995



FIRST STEP
Feeding Bottles
4 oz. 6'S

P129



MAGIC FRY
Vegetable Oil
PET, CAN
3.2 Kg.

P109

UFC Banana Catsup
12 x 330 G.

P102.50 per pack

P8.54 per 330 G.

ALASKA Filled Milk
5 x 180 G.

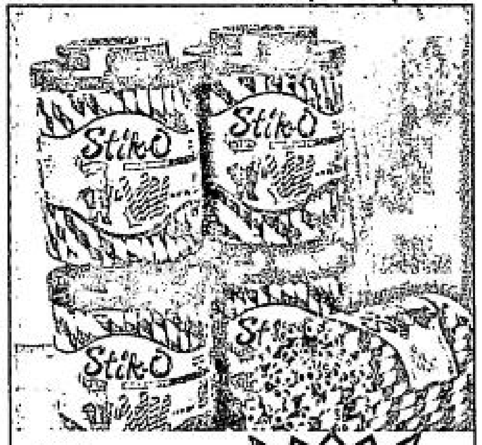
P118.50 per pack

P23.70 per 180 G.

MILO Choco Drink
Refill 5 x 200 G.

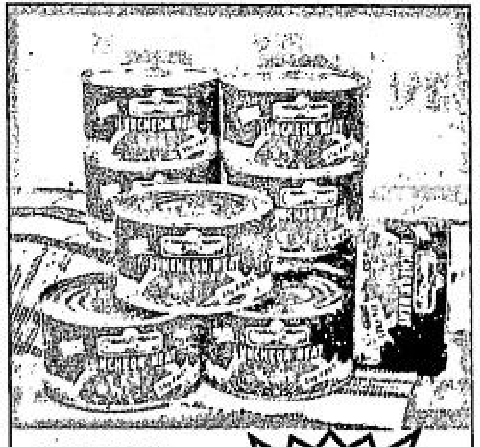
P108 per pack

P21.60 per 200 G.



STIK-O
Waferstick Choco
850 G.

P64.50 per jar



CAMPO CARNE
Chinese
Luncheon Meat
4 x 375 G.

P104 per pack

P26 per can

WILKINS
Distilled Water
6 L.

P48

ARO French Fries
Shoestring
4.5 lb.

P105.45 per pack

FREE
Tin of Maling
Luncheon Meat
170 G.

BUY ONE TAKE ONE

MALING Hotdog
500 G.

P115 per pack

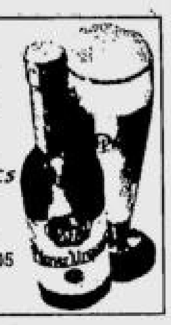
FAT & THIN
Siolongpao
Asado, Bola-Bola
25's

P96 per pack

NOW WITH 7 STORES TO SERVE YOU!

MAKRO Cainta : F. Felix (Formerly Imelda) Avenue, Cainta, Rizal : Tel. No. 656-7451
MAKRO Imus : Gen. Aguinaldo Highway, Anabu I, Imus, Cavite : Tel. No. (046) 515-2222
MAKRO Novaliches : #402 Quirino Highway, Sangandaan, Novaliches, Quezon City : Tel. No. 936-2216
MAKRO Sucat : East Service Road, South Super Hi-way, Muntinlupa City : Tel. Nos. 850-6570 to 79
MAKRO Harbour Centre : Lot 11, Manila Harbour Centre, Radial Road 10, Vitas, Tondo, Manila : Tel. No. 256-3106
MAKRO Cebu : M. Logarta Avenue, Barrio Subangdaku, Mandaue City, Cebu : (032) 345-9540 to 49
MAKRO Davao : Km. 7, McArthur Highway, Barrio Bangkal, Davao City : Tel. No. (082) 297-3615
Makro website : http://www.makro.com.ph

LIMITED STOCKS AVAILABLE


Pilsner Urquell the world's most imitated lager beer is now available at leading hotels, bars and restaurants
Inquire at
Bravo Coffee Corporation
Tel: 896-9572 or Fax 899-5396/897-6805
or e-mail: bravo@info.com.ph
215 N. Garcia Street, Makati City

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

3 reasons to smile
- Decaf & regular coffee beans roasted daily within our premises
- Exclusive Appassionato Roasting Process™ makes full-bodied, low acidity and richly aromatic coffee -- as great coffee should be
- Free delivery within Makati on minimum orders of 500 gms

For blends & varieties, call 899-5410 or fax 899-5396/897-6805 or e-mail: bravo@info.com.ph
Visit us at 215 N. Garcia St., Makati City

Jinggoy: PCSO has final say on ambulances

By Agnes E. Donato

SAN JUAN Mayor Jinggoy Estrada yesterday said he had nothing to do with the improper documentation of 246 ambulances he requested as head of the mayors' league, and passed the buck to the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

He said the PCSO has the final say in releasing the vehicles.

Estrada also clarified that the role of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines in the distribution of ambulances was primarily "ministerial."

"The documents required of any requesting municipality are submitted to the LMP which reviews them," he said. "Some (requests) are denied because they failed to meet the qualifications. But we have all the certificates of acceptance in our files. If anything, only minor documents remain to be settled."

Estrada pointed out that that issue had already been raised and thoroughly investigated last year by the Senate Blue Ribbon committee, which subsequently exonerated him of graft charges.

PCSO chair Honey Girl de Leon earlier claimed that 246 of the ambulances released to the office of then President Estrada and the LMP were not properly documented.

The vehicles, purchased in 1995 during the term of former PCSO chair Manuel Morato, were distributed to mostly 5th and 6th class municipalities.

"The LMP allotted one ambulance to each deserving municipality, regardless of its political affiliation," said Mayor Estrada, son of the deposed President.

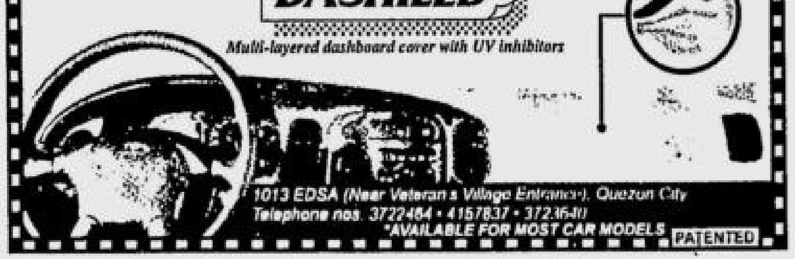
He claimed that 70 percent of the recipients belonged to the Lakas party, rival of the Lapian ng Masang Pilipino which his father founded.

He pointed out that even during the time of former President Fidel Ramos, then LMP president Agnes Devanedera was given the authority to name the recipients of PCSO ambulances.

ATTENTION: ALL EMPLOYERS

A new contribution schedule for the National Health Insurance Program *(formerly Medicare)* is now in place. Minimum monthly rate is P37.50 per employee, for those with monthly salaries of P3,499 and below. Maximum monthly rate is P93.75 per employee, for those with monthly salaries of P7,500 and above. In both cases, the employer shall provide an equivalent amount as its counterpart in the monthly contributions.

Paalala mula sa inyong partner sa kalusugan
PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION
City State Centre Building, 709 Shaw Blvd. Pasig City
Healthline: 637-9999, website: www.philhealth.gov.ph

Sleek & Sporty Starex
DASHIELD
Multi-layered dashboard cover with UV inhibitors

1013 EDSA (Near Veteran's Village Entrance), Quezon City
Telephone nos. 3722484 • 4157837 • 3721640
*AVAILABLE FOR MOST CAR MODELS PATENTED

Wazzzzup?

AUDIOTORIUM 23 WEST AVE., QUEZON CITY	RUBBERBAND ROCKING REVIVAL	RETRO NIGHT 374.2330 / 373.5574
BUMA Grill & Bar 9595 KAMAGONG ST. MAKATI	MAHA BAND	6-9PM P35 B1 T1 BEERS 896.2116/896.6554
Café OVERDRIVE FORD BLDG., P. TAMO EXT., MAKATI	M POWER	NO ENTRANCE FEE 818-5555/813-1348
Cowboy Grill BRGY. ALMANZA, LAS PIÑAS	HIMIG MR. ROXY	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 801.7644
Cowboy Grill 1190 ARQUIZA ST., MALATE	NON-TOXIC PUZZLES/BROWNIE	NO ENTRANCE FEE 525.1474/525.4269
Cowboy Grill 411 REMEDIOS ST., MALATE	AGENDA KNIGHTS	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 521.8143
Cowboy Grill NOVALICHES, Q.C.	STAY TUNED THINKERS W/ JOGRAD	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 936.9757
KAMPO 2088 #47 WEST AVENUE Q.C.	TRUE FAITH ACOLITES/A'PETITE	SIDE A MARCH 10
EXAMINER'S LITE n' LIVE #52 EXAMINER ST., Q.C.	GLADYS & D' BOXER UBF	P 80 ENTRANCE FEE HAPPY HOUR 6-9 PM
Live! at the ridge 2064 KATIPUNAN RD., Q.C.	DV8	P 250 CONSUMABLE ☎ 439.3255
PADIS POINT MANILA SM MANILA	ASIAN BLEND REVEAL	NO ENTRANCE FEE 527.6180/527.6211
PADIS POINT MINDAVE! MINDANAO AVE. COR. CONGS., Q.C.	ASCENSION DYEVEST BAND	OPEN UNTIL 2:30 AM 453.0080/925.3117
TIA MARIA'S JUPITER ST., MAKATI CITY	FIRST CALL	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 897.7603
OTHER PLACES		
Cowboy Grill BIÑAN, LAGUNA	FEEDBACK HOMOSAPIENS	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ (049) 511.7268
Jer's II REAL CALAMBA, LAGUNA	SYMPOSIUM	P 50 ENTRANCE P 200 CONSUMABLE
Ka Freddie Music Restaurant MARCOS HIGHWAY, ANTIPOLO	FREDDIE AGUILAR DIVERSION/WATAWAT BAND	P 100 ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 677.0795
Partyplace SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA	NOTY NOTES	MONGOLIAN BARBEQUE WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

FRIDAY, March 9 912-8983

Give her the BEST:
A Weinstein Acousticon Piano

1 year to pay 0% interest!
P8,000 downpayment (up to 24 mos. terms available)
2F Ali Mall II (Near Cineplex)
Araneta Center, Cubao, Q.C.
Tel. 912-4884 to 86
WE ACCEPT TRADE-INS (PIANOS AND ORGANS)
NOVALICHES: Novamall Tels. 983-0806/936-7407 CAINTA: Power Play Music 2F, Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall PASIG: Tel. 916-7498 LAS PINAS: Uniwide Metro Mall BINONDO: Carlkin Ent. Tel. 254-8656 SAN PEDRO: Pacita Arcade Tel. 808-0048 CALAMBA: Waltermart STA. ROSA: Tel. (049) 837-6480 LUCENA: Helen's Trading Tel. (042) 710-4037 DAGUPAN: Magic Appliances Tel. (075) 522-2106 BAGUIO: Musar Tel. (074) 442-8264 CEBU: 2nd Floor Shoemart Tel. (032) 412-9290 BOHOL: Herliz Music Studio Tel. (038) 411-4576 ILIGAN: Everose Mktg. Tel. (063) 221-2015 SAN PABLO: Rajah Trading Tel. (049) 562-2015 BICOL: Multi Brand Tel. (05421) 737-186 / (05221) 82084 CAGAYAN DE ORO: Borromeo Bldg., Tomas Saco cor. 14th Sts. Tel. (08822) 712-197 DAVAO: Tomas Lim Bldg., Quirino Ave. Tel. (082) 227-7761 CONPINCO OUTLETS NATIONWIDE

KAKA-TXT NA AKO

WITH PLDT TELETIPID!

Be one of over 5 million Filipinos who can experience THE FIRST NATIONWIDE LANDLINE TEXTING SERVICE.

IT'S SO EASY TO TEXT FROM A PLDT TELETIPID PHONE:

1. Just dial 135 and the 11-digit Smart GSM or Talk 'n Text cellphone number.
2. Listen to the voice prompts.
3. Press 1 to create your own message. Or press 2 to select a ready message.
4. To create your own message: Compose your message much like texting from a cellphone.
5. Or choose from a list of ready messages:
   - Press 1 for "Call home"
   - Press 2 for "Call me at the office"
   - Press 3 for "Have a good day"
   - Press 4 for "I love you"
   - Press 5 for "Happy Birthday"
6. Then send message. Message sent will be confirmed.

PLDT TOUCH CARD
TELETIPID
PREPAID LANDLINE CARD
P300
VAT inclusive

CALL 171 FOR FREE ACTIVATION NOW!

PLDT tXt 135
If you can't say it, txt it.
PLDT convergence@home
www.pldt.com.ph

Pasay cashier faces malversation raps

By Alcuin Papa

THE TABLES have been turned on the whistle-blower in the disappearance of a total of P9.7 million in city funds.

Pasay City Mayor Wenceslao "Peewee" Trinidad yesterday told reporters that the Office of the Ombudsman would file malversation charges against Lourdes Rafols, a cashier of the Pasay City Treasurer's Office.

Trinidad said that right after P1 million in city funds was reported missing in January, he ordered the city police to investigate the case. He said the results of the investigation concluded that Rafols was to blame and charges were filed against her before the Ombudsman.

Later, Trinidad again ordered the city's Commission on Audit office to investigate the case. It, too, found Rafols liable for the missing P1 million.

"The results of the inquiry conducted by the auditor's office have been forwarded to the Office of the Ombudsman which will consolidate all these findings to file the case," Trinidad said.

In January, Rafols said it was city treasurer Concepcion Daplas who ordered her to withdraw the money from the city funds.

In a sworn statement submitted to the Ombudsman last Dec. 11, Rafols said Daplas told her to withdraw P1 million from the vault of the office of the treasurer on Dec. 22. The money was to be given as gifts to the city councilors, Rafols said.

On Jan. 8, Daplas confronted Rafols and asked her where the money was. Rafols reminded Daplas that the treasurer had earlier ordered her to withdraw the money last December.

But Daplas claimed she could not remember this and ordered Rafols and two other employees to pay the missing amount.

The loss of the P1 million was reportedly discovered when Daplas questioned Rafols about unpaid salaries and yearly incentives of city workers.

Last month, Rafols said the Pasay City government could not account for P8.7 million in Fire Code fees collected by the city treasurer's office from establishments from January 1999 to November 2000.

Daplas denied that she did not remit to the National Treasury P8,707,426.63 in Fire Code fees.

In both her complaints, Rafols called for a speedy investigation of the missing funds and the filing of charges of technical malversation against Daplas.

Maynilad suspends concession fee payment

By Philip C. Tubeza

MAYNILAD Water Services Inc. (MWSI) yesterday suspended the payment of concession fee to the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) in its effort to cut losses that the private water firm incurred due to unforeseen events.

The *force majeure* notice, which is provided for under section 6.4 of the concession agreement between the private MWSI and the government water agency, was served to bring the problem before an arbitration panel of the Paris-based International Chamber of Commerce, MWSI officials said.

MWSI president Rafael Alunan III assured Maynilad customers that this move would not affect his company's services.

Maynilad pays a monthly concession fee to MWSS. MWSS uses the money to pay its foreign loans.

Maynilad is supposed to pay P3.024 billion in concession fees this year. It had already paid P469 million for January and February.

Alunan said they decided to bring the matter up for arbitration to solve the long-running problem and minimize losses of the MWSI and MWSS.

The MWSS Board earlier informed Maynilad that it approved its request in principle but had delayed official action.

Alunan assured the public that the notice served on MWSS was only meant to protect the rights of Maynilad so it could carry out its mandate.

Is the PBA worth its price?

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

HOW sure are we that PBA teams get their money's worth by throwing away many millions in using marquee players to advertise their products?

That question was raised by reader Teddy M. Reynoso of Bulacan, Bulacan, who says he suspects these teams could just be throwing away good money in pampering these star players.

Why? Because, he stresses, the regular work force, which may be truly responsible for the development, promotion and sale of their products and services, is clearly being overlooked and sacrificed just to retain PBA superstars in the team.

"Nowhere has the scandalous disparity in income been more pronounced than now with the way member corporations of the PBA have been outbidding one another to bag top players," Mr. Reynoso observes. "While star players receive millions in fabulous contracts, with even the second stringers, including the bench-warmers, going home with princely salaries, the workers, despite their honest toils and labor, receive only a pittance."

OK, pro league fanatics have closed their eyes to this malpractice, but Mr. Reynoso says he doubts these franchise teams have been truly successful in marketing products through the PBA.

* * *

He proceeds to point out what we may call monumental marketing failures.

"If we go by what happened to the PBA's pioneering member teams, most notably Toyota, Crispa and Mariwasa, to name only three, the pro league's track record in promoting and selling products of its members doesn't look too encouraging."

And to think, he adds, that in those years, multi-million-peso contracts were still unheard of.

Mr. Reynoso now suggests that the influence and potency of the PBA as a medium to promote the product of its member corporations were not as good as advertised.

"With the PBA's greater accent on commercial entertainment value of basketball, together with side shows coupled with commercial undertakings with other firms, it's clear that the PBA is going all out to again prove its claim to its potency as an advertising vehicle."

However, putting incredible price tags on marquee, he concludes, is not the sure, honest way to solidify that claim.

Instead, the PBA, this concerned reader advises, should strive to bring back the glory years when Filipino basketball stars strutted their wares not only in Asian regional competitions but in the Olympics as well.

A final prescription: "Instead of (setting its sights on) just the Asiad, I believe the PBA should set its sights on the formation of the strongest possible national team to represent the country in the 2003 Asian Basketball Confederation (ABC) championship, because this event will serve as an Asian qualifier for the 2004 Olympics in Athens."

* * *

Still on the topic of astronomical salaries in the PBA, reader Arlene Amarille of Sta. Ana, Manila says people should not pay too much attention to players alone.

"On the issue of enormous salaries, especially Danny Ildefonso's, the spotlight should be more on the policy of the other team which, in the first place, was the one that initiated the deal.

She says Ildefonso worked hard to be in the position where he is right now. "He deserves the recognition, but as to how much his talent and skills should cost, it's really up to the tactics and decisions of the management of the other team."

She continues: "As I see it, players depend on how management run its affairs. Neither the players nor the fans can stop the desire of other teams to pay millions of pesos, (only) the team officials themselves. We should not look at the players, especially Ildefonso, as the biggest winners here because we all know the name of the game. Management can easily dispose of older players for younger ones, regardless of their contributions to the success of the team."

Not really to take issue, she says, " I agree with what you said that Ildefonso was not really at fault but, it was really hard to compare things with different times and different situations. I'm very happy that Ildefonso has stayed with San Miguel. As for the performance of Filipino players against our Asian neighbors, this will require sound, solid management. We don't need only good players, but a good system, and dedicated, selfless managers as well."

Well said. Thank you for your kind concern.

Malonzo: Show proof of my 'ill-gotten wealth' and I'll quit

By Christian V. Esguerra

SHOW HIM proof and he would quit.

Caloocan City Mayor yesterday posed this challenge to his political opponents who had long been accusing him of amassing ill-gotten wealth during his six-year term.

Malonzo also threatened to file libel charges against a barangay captain who allegedly proclaimed during a rally that the mayor had mysteriously acquired several properties since he assumed office in 1995.

"They have to show proof," Malonzo told the INQUIRER. "They cannot just go around spreading these rumors. My reputation is at stake here."

Malonzo, who is gunning for a third and final term as mayor, was reacting to persistent speculations that he is into the fastfood business, which runs against his position as a public official.

He has also warned he would file libel charges against singer April "Bingo" Regino, a candidate for councilor, for allegedly implying in a recent interview that Malonzo owns Jollibee franchises in Caloocan.

Regino is running under the ticket of Malonzo's arch rival and mayoral candidate, Rep. Luis "Baby" Asistio.

"I will file charges against those who would make these accusations," he said.

Malonzo said the public might be assuming his ownership of business firms in Caloocan because of his "friendship" with the owners of the establishments. He said he made it a point to befriend entrepreneurs to boost investment in the city.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Friday, March 9, 2001.
1st Week of Lent

1st Reading: **Ezk 18:21-28**
Gospel: **Mt 5:20-26**

Jesus said to his disciples, "I tell you, then, that if you are not righteous in a much broader way than the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees, you cannot enter the kingdom of heaven.

You have heard that it was said to our people in the past: *Do not commit murder; anyone who does kill will have to face trial.* But now I tell you: whoever gets angry with a brother or sister will have to face trial. Whoever insults a brother or sister deserves to be brought before the council; whoever humiliates a brother or sister deserves to be thrown into the fire of hell. So, if you are about to offer your gift at the altar and you remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar, go at once and make peace with him, and then come back and offer your gift to God.

Don't forget this: be reconciled with your opponent quickly when you are together on the way to court. Otherwise he will turn you over to the judge, who will hand you over to the police, who will put you in jail. There you will stay, until you have paid the last penny."

Commentary

We grow to be morally upright to the extent that we assume responsibility for our lives and acts. We are called not simply to be moral. We need to go beyond morality: doing good and avoiding evil. Our calling as followers of Jesus is radical justice and love. If we let the good news of God's reign overtake us, we can overcome the minimalist attitudes of our times. The Gospel spurs us on to more.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites:http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

LEGAL ETHICS (JUDICIAL ETHICS)—Behavior of court personnel— The conduct and behavior of every one connected with an office charged with the dispensation of justice, from the presiding judge to the sheriff and to the lowliest clerk should be circumscribed with the heavy burden of responsibility. For every employee of the judiciary should be an example of integrity, uprightness and honesty. Even a court janitor is as much duty-bound to serve with highest degree of responsibility as all other public officers. Respondent's act undeniably constitutes a misconduct prejudicial to the best interest of the service. The court is looked up to by people, with high respect and is regarded a sacred place where litigants are heard, rights and conflicts settled and justice solemnly dispensed. Misbehavior within and around the vicinity diminishes its sanctity and dignity. Their conduct must at all times be characterized by, among other things, propriety and decorum so as to earn and keep the public's respect and confidence in the judicial service. The Court has likewise firmly laid down exacting standards of morality and decency expected of those in the service of the judiciary. Respondent Edroso failed to measure up to these standards having behaved in a manner unbecoming of a court personnel. [Citations omitted.] [Per Curiam, En Banc, Merilo-Bedural v. Edroso, A.M. No. 00-1395, October 12, 2000].

Digest by R.B. Vera

WHO'S AFRAID OF MAD COW?
Apparently not these government officials—(from left) Customs Commissioner Titus Villanueva, Agriculture Secretary Leonardo Montemayor and Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit—who make a show of eating beef at the Department of Agriculture in Quezon City to prove that the meat of cattle available in the country is free from the mad cow disease. EDWIN BACASMAS

Messenger killed in gang war

A MESSENGER was killed and two of his friends were injured after they were caught in the middle of a gunfight between two street gangs in Quezon City before dawn yesterday.

Police said Mark C. Baliguat, 22, of Leonard Street, Barangay Holy Spirit, died from five gunshot wounds while Angelbert Suniega, 23, and Jessie Destor are still in the hospital.

The three were trapped in the crossfire between the Black Sheep gang and another group of men from San Roque Street, also in Barangay Holy Spirit, according to investigators from the Central Police District (CPD).

Police identified the suspects as Black Sheep members Junior and Jay Vela, Marlon, Donald, and several John Does. The other group included a Henry, Rick, and also several John Does, police said.

Baliguat and his two companions were playing a card game on Dama de Noche Street in Barangay Holy Spirit when shots suddenly rang out at 1:05 a.m. yesterday, police said.

Before they knew it, they were already in the middle of a running gunfight between the two rival gangs.

Baliguat fell as five bullets hit him. His companions tried to take cover but they were also hit.

Baliguat died around 3 a.m. at the Far Eastern University hospital.

Philip C. Tubeza

Laborer stabbed dead in QC

LABORER Bogs Domingo did not live long enough to bring the *pulutan* (bar chow) he bought for his drinking buddies in a Quezon City construction site. Still unidentified men had waylaid on the road, then hacked and stabbed him to death, police said.

Pedestrians found the body of Domingo, of Floodway in Cainta, Rizal, about 10:45 p.m. on Wednesday several minutes after he left his drinking companions to buy food, said investigator Insp. Domingo Abellano, of the Central Police District's Scene of the Crime Operations (Soco) team.

He suffered four stab wounds in the head, a hack wound and three stab wounds in the chest, and five stab wounds in the back, Abellano said.

Domingo and an unidentified companion who was also drunk had left their other friends to buy the *pulutan*.

But a group of men were apparently waiting for them. The men waylaid them along Consolacion Street in Sitio Agua Ardiente in Barangay Sta. Monica, Abellano said.

Domingo's unidentified companion ran and escaped after the attack. But he ran into a tree and passed out, so police first thought they had two murder victims in their hands, Abellano added.

Domingo's friend, however, only suffered a gash on his head.

Police could not get much information from Domingo's companion who was still drunk during initial investigation.

Philip C. Tubeza

Legarda in Kilosbayan forum

SEN. Loren Legarda will engage Kilosbayan members and guests in a lively but serious discussion on what is at stake in the May electoral contest between the People Power Coalition and the Pwersa ng Masa team.

This will be held at the Kilosbayan forum today at 2 p.m. at the Shalom Center at 1660 L.M. Guerrero St., Malate, Manila.

Legarda will speak on "What the May 14 elections are all about." A panel of three Kilosbayan leaders, led by Ambassador Sedfrey Ordonez, will ask questions following the open forum.

Rep. Wigbero Tañada and former Securities and Exchange Commission chair Perfecto Yasay will make their appeal before the open forum. The public is invited.

Bloodletting marks Women's Day

ZONTA International, a service organization of women executives in business and the professions, is celebrating this year's International Women's Day with activities focusing on women's causes and concerns and their role in the 21st century.

Area 1, District 17 of Zonta International headed by Area Director Nonie T. Basilio and Vice Area Director Virma Vergel de Dios marked the occasion with a bloodletting activity in which 10 clubs participated. The bloodletting was for the benefit of the Philippine National Red Cross Blood Bank and the Victor Potenciano Medical Center.

Young thief hurt in fall from jeep he just robbed

A SUSPECTED thief is in critical condition when he fell off a jeepney after he and two companions allegedly robbed its passengers on Wednesday night in Antipolo City.

The 16-year-old suspect, of Barangay Inarawan in Antipolo City, suffered body injuries and is now undergoing treatment at the Philippine General Hospital.

Police investigation showed that the three suspects boarded a jeepney on Marcos Highway in Gate 1, Antipolo City about 8 p.m. Wednesday.

Even if there were still unoccupied seats in the vehicle, the suspects chose to hang onto the bars at the back entrance of the vehicle, police said.

Police said that a few minutes after the trio boarded the jeepney, one of them ordered the driver to stop, then grabbed the gold necklace and bracelet of a passenger who was sitting near the back of the jeepney.

But as the suspects were escaping, the 16-year-old lost his balance and fell headfirst on the pavement. His two companions left him behind.

The young suspect was immediately brought to the Antipolo District Hospital for treatment but doctors there said they could not treat him because the hospital lacked facilities.

He was transferred to the Quezon City Medical Center, and later to the PGH, where his relatives thought they could afford the cost of medication.

Agnes E. Donato

Ex-mayor accused of landgrabbing

A FORMER mayor of Tanay town in Rizal has been accused of grabbing land allegedly owned by his relative.

Heirs of the late Macario Cruz Sr. said that since 1990, former Mayor Lito Tanjuatco had been occupying without permit the land owned by their grandfather.

Armand Cruz, one of the complainants, said he and his relatives told Tanjuatco's caretakers on Feb. 19 that they already had an approved survey plan for the 11,033-square-meter lot and would be fencing off the property.

But the caretakers, led by a Cesar Panaligan, allegedly had a fit and cursed them, prompting the claimants to file a complaint at the barangay hall.

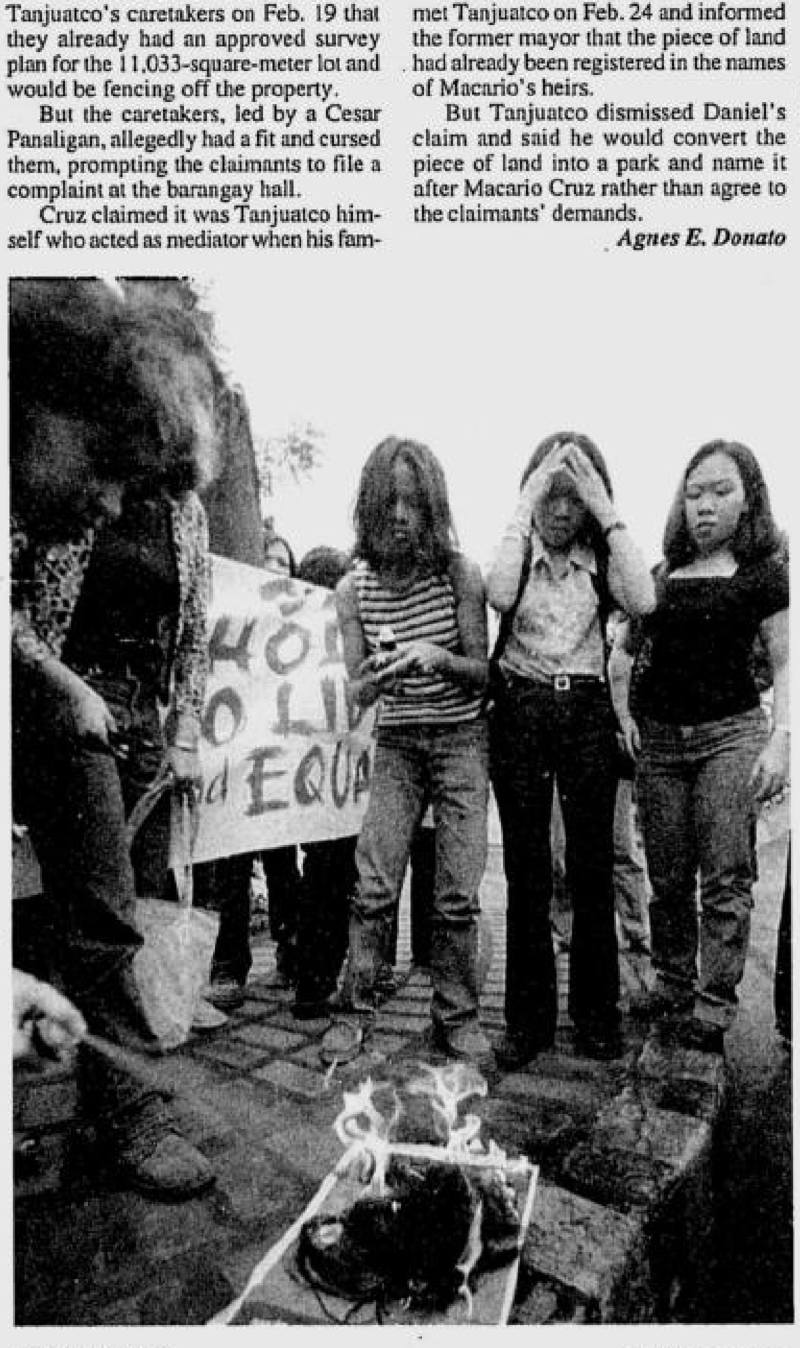
Cruz claimed it was Tanjuatco himself who acted as mediator when his family went to the barangay hall on Feb. 23 to file charges against the former mayor's caretakers.

Cruz said Tanjuatco was in no position to hear legal complaints at the barangay hall. He claimed Tanjuatco brushed their case aside and discussed instead the counter-charges his caretakers would file against the Cruzes.

Armand said his uncle Daniel Cruz met Tanjuatco on Feb. 24 and informed the former mayor that the piece of land had already been registered in the names of Macario's heirs.

But Tanjuatco dismissed Daniel's claim and said he would convert the piece of land into a park and name it after Macario Cruz rather than agree to the claimants' demands.

Agnes E. Donato



HOT HAIR EDWIN BACASMAS
Members of a group called Kaisa-Ka set on fire locks of their own hair during a lightning protest rally outside Malacañang. Their rally coincided with the celebration of International Women's Day.

ANGELA VELEZ

Beauty, brain and brawn

By Marinel R. Cruz

ANGELA: Education, talent, good looks rolled into one.

SCREEN siren Angela Velez has a college degree tucked under that luscious waist, which not many of our local stars have. That is, a degree, not a waist.

Angela's course is not the sort that just any indolent person can breeze through. She actually finished Electrical Engineering at the National University.

What's more, her parents did not spend on her tuition because Angela was on full scholarship the whole time.

Angela had been a member of the volleyball varsity in all the schools she attended.

"Sports *ang nagpaaral sa akin* (Sports put me through school)," she said. "I played badminton in grade school. But I wanted to be a member of the RP team, so I played volleyball in high school and in college."

She also happened to be a permanent fixture in school beauty pageants. She won them all and this paved the way for her to join the maddening world of show business.

Originally from South Cotabato, she won the Miss Coronadal National title when she was in second year high school, and Miss Arellano when she transferred to Manila in her fourth year.

It was when she won the Miss National University title, representing the school in the nationwide search for Philippine Miss University in her fifth year, that a talent caster approached her and asked her if she was interested in show business.

"*Wala talaga sa plano ko ang* show biz (Show biz wasn't part of my plans)," Velez said. "Back then, while studying, I was already working as a draftswoman for RGB Technical."

The first movie she appeared in was Eastern Film's "Pakawalang Puso," which tells the story of a college student trying to free herself from the grip of her strict and overprotective father.

Frustrated, Angela's character rebels and hurts herself in the process. She teamed up with veteran actor and director Eddie Gutierrez in that movie.

She has been endorsing Trust condoms for three years now, not because she happens to enjoy the product, but because she does not wish what happened to a sibling happen again.

"*Ayoko nang mangyari sa iba ang nangyari* to someone very close to me," she said. "*Hindi naging maganda.*"

She added she fully supports the government campaign to orient people against practicing unprotected sex.

Angela will be seen next in the upcoming action flick, "Panabla" where she stars opposite Ronald Gan Ledesma. Here she plays a policewoman framed by a power-greedy colleague (PJ Abellana) who wants to usurp her post.

Angela said it wasn't hard for her to do fight scenes and fire different kinds of guns since this is the third time she made such a movie.

"I've wanted to do 'Charlie's Angels' kinds of roles," she said.

She goes to the gym two to three times a week to keep fit. "If I don't work-out, *lalo akong nanghihina*," she said. She also swims and plays badminton weekly at the Celebrity Sports Plaza in Quezon City. She follows a rigid training circuit where she does crunches, squats, leg curls and close-gripped bench presses.

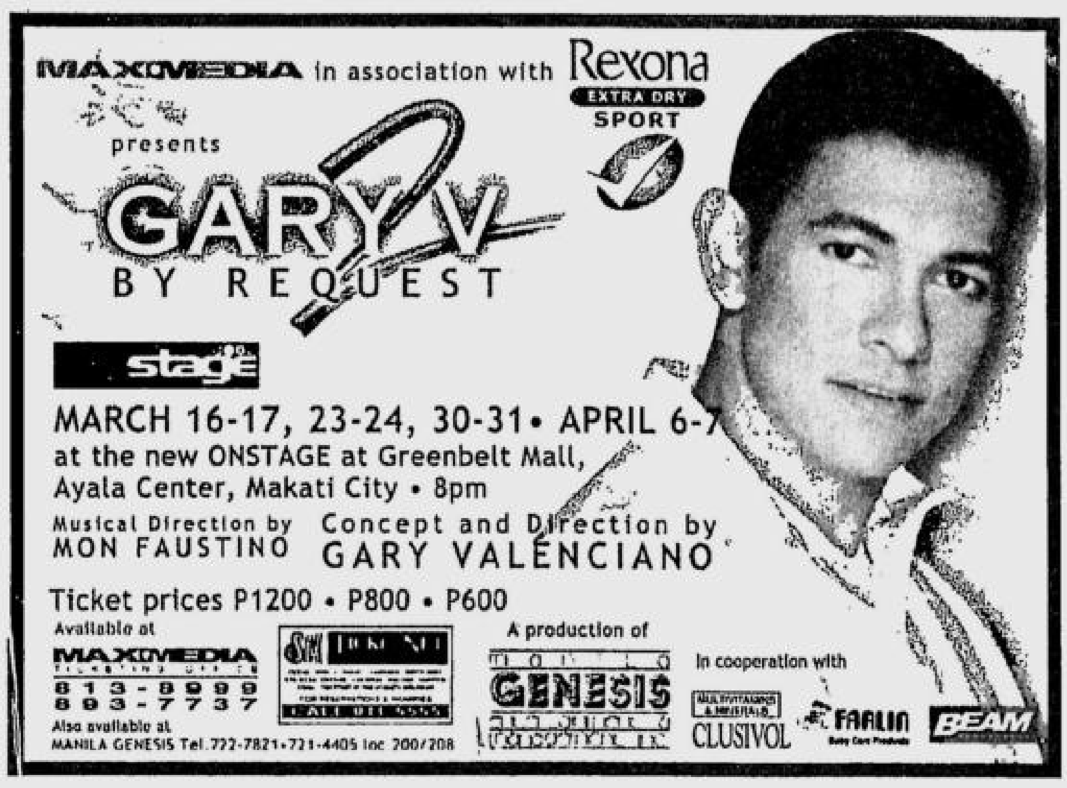
Angela, along with model/actor Cody Moreno joined the Inquirer in a post-Valentine celebration titled "Happy Hearts at Inquirer" on Feb. 26 where she gamely took part in a dating game hosted for her by Summit publication's "For Him Magazine." ***(Cody's story appears here next week.)***

Angela is on the cover of FHM's anniversary issue and is on the list of nominated beauties for the magazine's annual list of 100 sexiest women in the world, which is read at the newly released website www.fhm.com.ph.

She will soon be shooting the pilot episode of another Claudine Baretto daily soap opera for ABS-CBN.

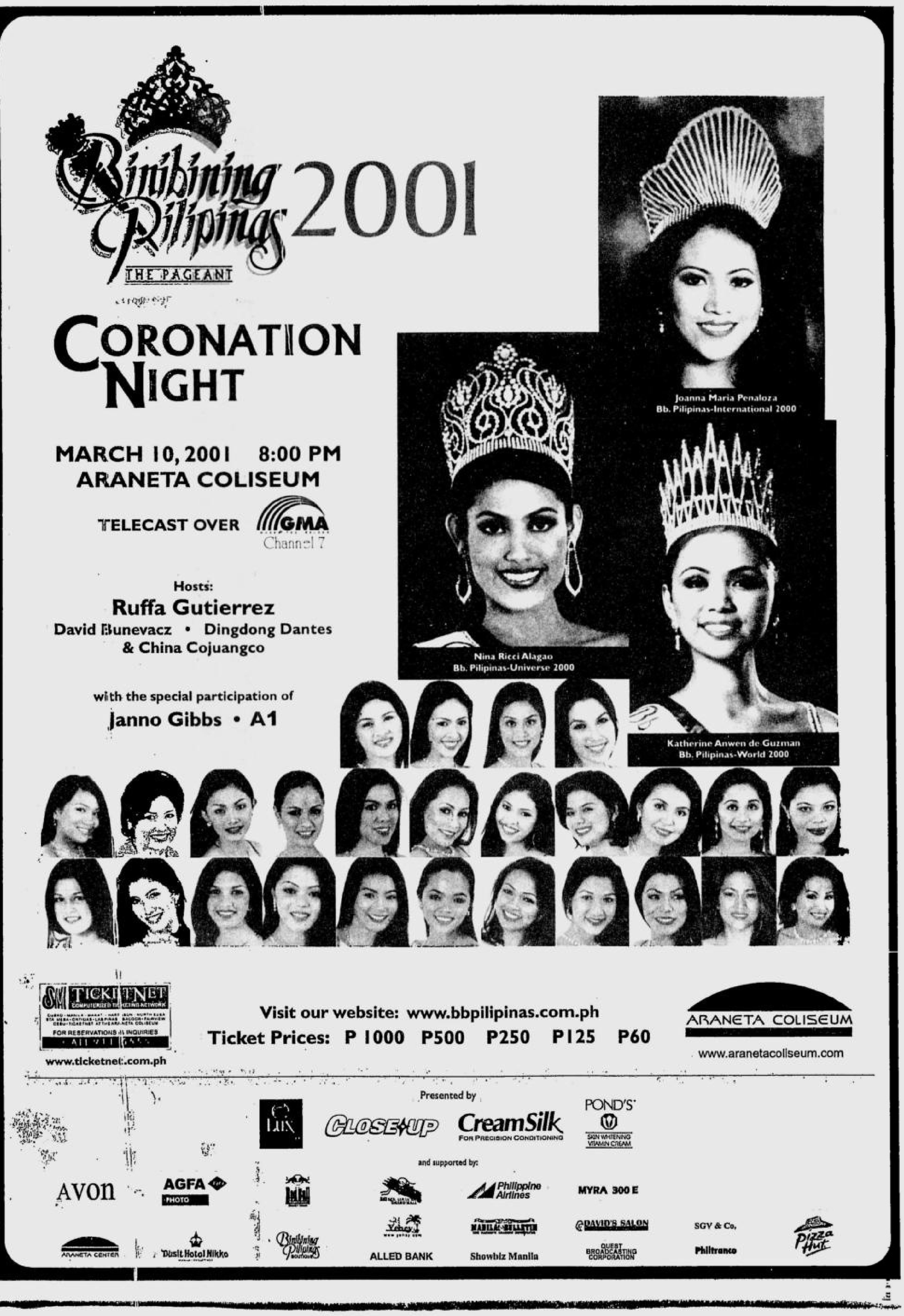
HAPPY HEARTS at INQUIRER
Antonelli's

A DAY at the Inquirer with PDI employees Vhon Montefrio and Mike Sanidad (above).



MAXIMEDIA in association with Rexona EXTRA DRY SPORT presents
GARY V BY REQUEST
stage
MARCH 16-17, 23-24, 30-31 • APRIL 6-7
at the new ONSTAGE at Greenbelt Mall,
Ayala Center, Makati City • 8pm
Musical Direction by MON FAUSTINO
Concept and Direction by GARY VALENCIANO
Ticket prices P1200 • P800 • P600
Available at MAXIMEDIA 813-8999 893-7737
Also available at MANILA GENESIS Tel.722-7821•721-4405 loc 200/208
A production of GENESIS
In cooperation with CLUSIVOL FARLIN BEAM

Catch the
LAST FEW
WEEKS' RUN
OF
Miss Saigon
THE ORIGINAL BROADWAY MUSICAL
VERY SPECIAL OFFER FOR
Orchestra Section Seats
Feb 27 to Mar 25 performances
Balcony 1 & 2 seats are also available.
For inquiries, call
813 6022, 817 1350
813 6024, 894 0452
0918-9002168
0917-4239065
0917-8113284
0917-6136909
0917-8928184



Binibining Pilipinas 2001
THE PAGEANT
CORONATION NIGHT
MARCH 10, 2001 8:00 PM
ARANETA COLISEUM
TELECAST OVER GMA Channel 7
Hosts:
Ruffa Gutierrez
David Bunevacz • Dingdong Dantes
& China Cojuangco
with the special participation of
Janno Gibbs • A1
Joanna Maria Penaloza
Bb. Pilipinas-International 2000
Nina Ricci Alagao
Bb. Pilipinas-Universe 2000
Katherine Anwen de Guzman
Bb. Pilipinas-World 2000
SM TICKETNET
www.ticketnet.com.ph
Visit our website: www.bbpilipinas.com.ph
Ticket Prices: P 1000 P500 P250 P125 P60
ARANETA COLISEUM
www.aranetacoliseum.com
Presented by
LUX CLOSE-UP CreamSilk FOR PRECISION CONDITIONING POND'S SKIN WHITENING VITAMIN CREAM
and supported by:
AVON AGFA PHOTO Philippine Airlines MYRA 300 E
ARANETA CENTER Dusit Hotel Nikko Binibining Pilipinas BOUTIQUE ALLED BANK Manila Bulletin Showbiz Manila DAVID'S SALON QUEST BROADCASTING CORPORATION SGV & Co, Philtranco Pizza Hut

SM CINEMA GUIDE
SM Dial-A-Movie • Tel. 633-9999
NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR 4173868

1	DOLBY SURROUND	CAST AWAY
2	DOLBY SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
3	DOLBY DIGITAL	MS. CONGENIALITY
4	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
5	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	DRACULA 2000
6	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
7	DOLBY SURROUND	HANNIBAL
8	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE

SM CENTERPOINT 7149822 • 7161416

1	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
3	DTS	MS. CONGENIALITY
4	DOLBY SURROUND	ALMOST FAMOUS
5	DOLBY DIGITAL	HANNIBAL
6	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CAST AWAY
7	DOLBY SURROUND	DRACULA 2000
8	DOLBY SURROUND	FAMILY MAN
9	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE
10	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 9360749

1	DOLBY SURROUND	OBJECT OF OBSESSION
2	DOLBY SURROUND	DEMON GATE
3	DOLBY SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
4	DOLBY DIGITAL	MS. CONGENIALITY
5	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
6	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
7	DOLBY DIGITAL	HANNIBAL
8	DOLBY SURROUND	DRACULA 2000
9	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE
10	DOLBY SURROUND	CAST AWAY
11	DOLBY SURROUND	WOMAN ON TOP
12	DOLBY SURROUND	TUHOG

SM CITY MANILA 5238240

1	DOLBY DIGITAL	MS. CONGENIALITY
2	DOLBY DIGITAL	HANNIBAL
3	DOLBY SURROUND	ALMOST FAMOUS
4	DOLBY SURROUND	DRACULA 2000
5	DOLBY DIGITAL	PAY IT FORWARD
6	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	CAST AWAY
7	DOLBY SURROUND	WOMAN ON TOP
8	DOLBY SURROUND	OBJECT OF OBSESSION
9	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE
10	DOLBY SURROUND	FAMILY MAN
11	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
12	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW

GUADALUPE COMM'L CTR 8820950

1	ULTRA SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	DRACULA 2000
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY

SM MEGAMALL 6331901 • 6329401

1	DOLBY DIGITAL	HANNIBAL
2	DOLBY SURROUND	ALMOST FAMOUS
3	DOLBY DIGITAL	DRACULA 2000
4	DTS	MS. CONGENIALITY
5	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE
6	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
7	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
8	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
9	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
10	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
12	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM CITY NORTH EDSA 9295452

1	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE
2	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CAST AWAY
4	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
5	DOLBY SURROUND	MS. CONGENIALITY
6	DOLBY SURROUND	ALMOST FAMOUS
7	DTS	HANNIBAL
8	DOLBY DIGITAL	DRACULA 2000
9	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	OBJECT OF OBSESSION
10	DOLBY SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	TUHOG
12	DOLBY SURROUND	FAMILY MAN

SM SOUTHMALL 8003844 • 8000782

1	ULTRA SURROUND	ALMOST FAMOUS
2	ULTRA SURROUND	HANNIBAL
3	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	MS. CONGENIALITY
4	ULTRA SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
5	ULTRA SURROUND	OBJECT OF OBSESSION
6	ULTRA SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
7	ULTRA SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
8	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	DRACULA 2000
9	ULTRA SURROUND	CAST AWAY
10	ULTRA SURROUND	HOSTAGE

TUTUBAN CENTER 2514302

1	ULTRA SURROUND	DRACULA 2000
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	HOSTAGE
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	LIVE SHOW

SM CEBU 2313876

1	DOLBY SURROUND	PAY IT FORWARD
2	ULTRA SURROUND	WHAT WOMEN WANT
3	ULTRA SURROUND	NURSE BETTY
4	ULTRA SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
5	ULTRA SURROUND	IKA-7 GLORYA
6	ULTRA SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
7	DOLBY SURROUND	HANNIBAL

SM ILOILO 3209422

1	ULTRA SURROUND	WOMAN ON TOP
2	ULTRA SURROUND	WHAT WOMEN WANT
3	ULTRA SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
4	ULTRA SURROUND	IKA-7 GLORYA
5	ULTRA SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
6	ULTRA SURROUND	PROOF OF LIFE
7	ULTRA SURROUND	102 DALMATIANS
8	ULTRA SURROUND	CAST AWAY

SM PAMPANGA 7128015

1	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	HANNIBAL
2	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	DRACULA 2000
3	DOLBY SURROUND	WOMAN ON TOP
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	HOSTAGE
5	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
6	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.

AYALA CINEMAS
NOW SHOWING
YOUR 24-HOUR LINK TO ALL AYALA CINEMAS 729 - 7777
reserve seats through www.sureseats.com

GLORIETTA 1 (formerly QUAD)
1 LIVE SHOW
2 MS. CONGENIALITY
3 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4 DRACULA 2000

GLORIETTA 4 All Digital Sound
1 ALMOST FAMOUS in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2 MS. CONGENIALITY in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3 MS. CONGENIALITY THX in DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4 INNOCENCE (Phil. Premiere) in DTS DIGITAL SOUND Art Film
5 CAST AWAY in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6 DRACULA 2000 in DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7 HANNIBAL in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GREENBELT
1 LIVE SHOW in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2 MS. CONGENIALITY in SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3 HANNIBAL in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
4 MARCH 16,17,23,24 GARY V. BY REQUEST 2 Onstage

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1 MS. CONGENIALITY THX in DSD/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2 HANNIBAL in DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3 DRACULA 2000 in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4 ALMOST FAMOUS in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5 LIVE SHOW in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION
MOVIE GUIDE
NOW SHOWING

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (SDD) DRACULA 2000
2 (SDDS) ALMOST FAMOUS
3 (DTS) MS. CONGENIALITY
4 (GOLD DTS) HANNIBAL
5 (GOLD DOLBY) MS. CONGENIALITY
6 (GOLD SDDS) WOMAN ON TOP
7 (GOLD DOLBY) CAST AWAY
8 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
9 HOSTAGE
10 LIVE SHOW

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 BLONDIE
3 (DTS) LIVE SHOW
4
5
6 (DTS)
Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMAX 1-2 & 3
(Kalaw) tel 536.4315
1 (DOLBY) MS. CONGENIALITY
2 (DTS) KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 LIVE SHOW

Masagana CINEMA V
(Pasay) tel 831.6603
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 DRACULA 2000
3 LIVE SHOW

Starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 HOSTAGE
3 LIVE SHOW
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) MS. CONGENIALITY
5 DRACULA 2000

Metropolis
(Alabang) tel 543.4001
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 RESERVE
3 HOSTAGE
4 LIVE SHOW
5 MS. CONGENIALITY
6 HANNIBAL
7 DRACULA 2000
8 OBJECT OF OBSESSION

Uniwide Metromall
(Las Piñas) tel. 873.5606 loc. 1074
WATCH 3 MOVIE FOR ONLY P30.00
1
2 ARAYY
3 RED PLANET
4 SUMMER HEAT
5 –
6

Uniwide Coastal Mall
(Parañaque) tel 879.0001 loc. 2152
WATCH 3 MOVIE FOR ONLY P30.00
1
2 READY TO RUMBLE
3 GOSSIP
4 KANGKONG

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 HOSTAGE
2 CAST AWAY

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515
1 RESERVE
2 LIVE SHOW
3 DEMON GATE

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
A DEMON GATE

JC Cinema
(Parañaque) tel 825.8626
1 BLONDIE
3

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8588
1 (DOLBY) DRACULA 2000
2 OBJECT OF OBSESSION
3 WOMAN ON TOP
4 HOSTAGE
5 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
6 LIVE SHOW
7 (DTS) HANNIBAL
8 (SDDS) ALMOST FAMOUS
9 (DOLBY) MS. CONGENIALITY

Caloocan
tel 362.3508
2 LIVE SHOW
3 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4 HOSTAGE
5
6

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781
1 HOSTAGE
2 LIVE SHOW
3 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4 (SDDS) MS. CONGENIALITY
5 LIVE SHOW
6 (DOLBY) DRACULA 2000
7 (DTS) HANNIBAL
8 TUSONG TWOSOME
9 TUHOG

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083
1 (DTS) MS. CONGENIALITY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4 TUSONG TWOSOME
5 (SDDS) HANNIBAL
6 HOSTAGE
7 (DOLBY) DRACULA 2000
8 LIVE SHOW

Ortigas
tel 656.6795
1 HOSTAGE
2 HANNIBAL
3 (DTS) LIVE SHOW
4 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
5 (SDDS) DRACULA 2000
6 (DOLBY) LIVE SHOW
7 (DOLBY) MS. CONGENIALITY

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888
1 LIVE SHOW

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724
Dilson LIVE SHOW
Lords BODY SHOT
Jennet LIVE SHOW

THE MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 LIVE SHOW
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 DRACULA 2000
4 MS CONGENIALITY

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215
1
3 LIVE SHOW

Super Cinerama
(Manila) tel 733.4226 or 733.4238
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 DRACULA 2000
3 HOSTAGE
4 LIVE SHOW
5 MS CONGENIALITY

Divisoria Mall
(Manila) tel 244.4560 or 244.4619
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 HOSTAGE
4 RESERVE
5 RESERVE
6 DRACULA 2000

Baclaran LRT Cinema
tel 512.0115 or 512.0116
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 DRACULA 2000

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 (DTS) DRACULA 2000

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 (DTS) LIVE SHOW
3 (DOLBY) DRACULA 2000
4 WOMAN ON TOP

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 BLONDIE
3 RESERVE
4 (DTS) LIVE SHOW

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) DRACULA 2000
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 (DTS) LIVE SHOW
4 BLONDIE
5 HOSTAGE

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 DRACULA 2000

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 DRACULA 2000

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311
1 CAST AWAY
2 HOSTAGE
3 HANNIBAL

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736
1 DRACULA 2000
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 HANNIBAL

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376
1 HOSTAGE
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 LIVE SHOW
4 DEMON GATE

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 243.2783
1 (DTS) KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 (DTS) LIVE SHOW

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657
1 HOSTAGE
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 DRACULA 2000

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 FAMILY MAN
2 102 DALMATIANS
3 HOSTAGE
4 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY

Berma
tel 879.2168
1
2

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269
1 HOSTAGE
2 LIVE SHOW
3 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4 DRACULA 2000

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) HANNIBAL
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 DRACULA 2000
4 (DTS EX) WOMAN ON TOP

*Movie[illegible]ect to change without prior notice

THX DOLBY dts SDDS

FASHION ANGELS
BEAUTY PAGEANT 2001
E-MAIL US AT
FASHION ANGELS 2001@YAHOO.COM.

FOR INQUIRIES
PLS. CALL
734-5012
a special presentation

'Loren' celebrates women's month

"LOREN" celebrates women's month with the episode "Kumusta Ka, Pilipina," 11 p.m. tomorrow, March 10, on ABS-CBN.

Program host Sen. Loren Legarda presents poignant accounts of the lives of the kampanyera Lolas from Arayat, Pampanga. They are the newly emerged batch of former comfort women who are under the wing of the Asian Women's Human Rights Council Buhay foundation.

Nelia Sancho and Baby Matsushita, the women behind the old ladies, provide their own insights on how they have been helping empower women from various sectors of society all these years.

Sister Christine Tan and two women leaders of Alay-Kapwa, that women-empowering organization that has helped "enlighten" residents of Leveriza, Malate, speak of the small triumphs amidst economic, moral and social ills that continue to plague the urban poor.

Episode writer is Fe Ramirez, researchers are Joan Sullo and Ana Buita. Executive producer is Pauline Gamboa-Halili.

LEGARDA

'By Demand' examines SC vote on Arroyo rule

THE 13-0 decision of the Supreme Court has legitimzied beyond doubt the constitutionality of the Arroyo government. How will this influence the political and economic climate, especially during the precarious weeks leading to the May elections?

Lawyer Katrina Legarda examines the ramifications of the SC vote against Estrada's claim to the presidency. Is this enough assurance of political stability for foreign investors to put their money in the country? What are the legal implications of Estrada's loss of immunity? And how does his family feel about this latest stroke of fate?

Join Legarda and her panel of distinguished guests as they look into the facts and the possibilities at play in this recent turn of events in "Katrina Legarda: By Demand," 9 tonight on the ABS-CBN News Channel ANC 21.

ROBINSONS MOVIE WORLD
STATE-OF-THE-ART CINEMAS
e-mail:hto@netasia-mla.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieword.com

NOW SHOWING
Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ERMITA 536-7809-14
❶ MS. CONGENIALITY
❷ HANNIBAL
❸ KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
❹ HOSTAGE
❺ LIVE SHOW
❻ ALMOST FAMOUS
❼ DRACULA 2000

GALLERIA
UNDER RENOVATION
Robinsons Movieworld aims to bring a new dimension to your viewing experience – 10 brand new cinemas equipped with THX, DTS, SDDS, DOLBY DIGITAL soundsystem.

IMUS (046)876-3838
❶ HANNIBAL
❷ LIVE SHOW
❸ DRACULA 2000
❹ MS. CONGENIALITY
❺ KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
❻ HOSTAGE

BACOLOD (034)441-0453
❶ FAMILY MAN
❷ 102 DALMATIANS
❸ TUSONG TWOSOME
❹ PROOF OF LIFE
❺ HOSTAGE
❻ NURSE BETTY

DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	LIVE SHOW
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	MS. CONGENIALITY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	DRACULA 2000
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	HANNIBAL
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	ALMOST FAMOUS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	HOSTAGE
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	MS. CONGENIALITY
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
MIRAMAR	GATAS / MY PRIVATE TEACHER
ODEON	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
ODEON-2	MS. CONGENIALITY
ROBEN	HOSTAGE
TANDEM-1	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
TANDEM-2	IKA-7 GLORYA
TIMES	HIGHLANDER / LOST SOUL
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	ANAK NG YAKUSA
ACT-2	ANAK NG KANO
ACT-3	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
ACT-4	TURN ON
CORONET-2	LIVE SHOW
QUEZON-1	HANIBAL
REMAR	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
REMAR-2	HOSTAGE
CUBAO	
OCEAN SUPERAMA	LIVE SHOW
OCEAN CINEMA-A	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
OCEAN CINEMA-B	BLONDIE
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	MS. CONGENIALITYL
CINEMA-2	ALMOST FAMOUS
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-54091 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	HOSTAGE
CINEMA-2	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
CINEMA-3	LIVE SHOW
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	CAST AWAY
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	OBJECT OF OBSESSION
CINEMA-6	TUSONG TWOSOME
CINEMA-7	BLONDIE
CINEMA-8	TUHOG
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	HANNIBAL
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	MS. CONGENIALITY
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	ALMOST FAMOUS
CINEMA-12	DRACULA 2000
CINEMA-14	HOSTAGE
CINEMA-15	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
LORES	
CINEMA-2	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
CINEMA-3	BLONDIE
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	ALMOST FAMOUS
CINEMA-2	MS. CONGENIALITY
CINEMA-3	HANNIBAL
CINEMA-4	DRACULA 2000
CINEMA-5	PAY IT FORWARD
CINEMA-6	MISS CONGENIALITY

LOUIE'S CINEMA
LUCAS FILM THX
It Will Change the Way You Hear and See Movies Forever
NOW SHOWING
Ms. Congeniality
(PG-13 / RT 1:47)
Comedy
Sandra Bullock
Benjamin Bratt
Michael Caine
March 9 - Friday
5:30 PM - Ms. Congeniality
8:00 PM - Ms. Congeniality
10:30 PM - Ms. Congeniality
Watch out for the 4th issue of Pelikula: A Journal of Philippine Cinema featuring WOMEN IN CINEMA coming out in March!
LRP Foundation Inc. Louie's THX Cinema Bldg., Mile Long Compound Amorsolo St., Makati City Tel. No. 751-20-10 Fax 892-3449
www.louiesthx.com.ph
Hear the Difference, Feel the Excitement

Shedding more skin, love in a rock and other boob-tube booboos

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

HOST: I notice that you are not making many movies these days. What happened, are you getting fewer offers?

Star: No, *marami pa rin*. But, sad to say, I have been turning them down because the offers I've been getting all require me to shed more skin!"

(*Parang ahas!*)

* * *

Host: Any last words for our viewers, to inspire or illuminate them? Guest: I can say that I decided to speak up against corruption even if it was dangerous, because I believe in the tourism that, for evil to triumph, all that is needed is for good men to do nothing!

(How did "tourism" get into this? – Oh, truism!)

* * *

Host: Why have you decided to take this new wonder drug, despite the big expense involved? Guest: Because I firmly believe that it will extend my life longer, my youthfulness-looking!

(*Uy*, youthfulness-looking *daw* . . .)

* * *

Host: With your years of experience in education, what tips can you give our students today so that they will do well in school and even afterwards?

Guest: To all the students watching this show, whatever you do, don't forget to eat your recess!

(Huh?!)

* * *

Host: Tell us about your boyfriend now.

Guest: Oh, he's so supportive of my career!

Host: Are you his first girlfriend? Guest: No, he had a girlfriend when I met him.

Host: But you still dated him? Guest: Yes, but I didn't steal him from her, because they were already in a rock!

(Duh...)

* * *

Host: What do you like better, the front or back of a woman? Guest: Front!

Host: Can you tell us why? Guest: Because it's better to talk to a woman face to face than talking to her being!

(Well, when you put it that way . . . !)

* * *

Host: I heard you can hold your breath underwater for more than four minutes?

Guest: Yes, that's true.

Host: *Aba*, pang-Gimmick Book of World Records *'yan, a*! (Gimmick is right!)

* * *

Host: It's easy to join our studio contest! *Alam niya na ba ang* rules, contestants?

Contestants: Yes! *Opo*, (etc.) Host: Good! *O, umpisa na tayo. Tatayo lang kayo sa* where the middle!

(*Saan*?!)

* * *

Host: What are the good qualities you are looking for in your ideal man?

Guest: *Syempre*, he must be nice and presentable, and he must be able to provide for our children!

Host: That's nice. What else? Guest: He must be somebody who is very care!

(*Sayang*, you were doing so well)

TV treats

TOMORROW, Saturday, March 10 at 8 p.m. on the National Geographic Channel, "Skyscrapers" chronicles the monumental achievements in mankind's never-ending efforts to build the world's tallest structures.

At 9 p.m. on the National Geographic Channel, "Bridges" focuses on the world's greatest bridges and reveals how they work (and why they sometimes don't).

At 9 p.m. on Star Movies, "The Rainmaker" stars **Matt Damon, Danny DeVito, Jon Voight, Mickey Rourke, Danny Glover** and **Claire Danes.** (Replays are on March 15 at 5 p.m. and March 20 at 11:30 a.m.).

Damon plays an idealistic young lawyer who finds himself working for an unscrupulous legal firm. Eager to get justice for innocent victims, he files a claim against an insurance company that refuses to help a young man who's dying of leukemia. Soon, however, the young lawyer discovers that he is playing a dangerous game.

Sylvia La Torre's back, and she's still trilling!

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

I REMEMBER **Sylvia La Torre** as a lady who often burst into an operatic, glass-breaking falsetto in most of her TV programs in the past.

My generation remembers her as the grandmother of then child star **Ian Veneracion** in "Joey and Son," and then the mother of megastar **Sharon Cuneta** in "Okay Sha." Earlier, when radio was the biggest source of home entertainment and TV was in black and white, she was part of a "love team" in sitcoms that also featured the late **Pugo** and **Bentot**.

Sylvia regaled generations of sitcom viewers with her music and humor, until the early '80s when she and her family migrated to the United States.

"At that time, our youngest daughter, **Che-Che**, was getting so engrossed with being part of show biz and we did not really want to encourage her, so we thought of bringing her to the States," Sylvia now relates. "We wanted her to concentrate on her studies."

Sylvia and her husband **Celso Perez-de Tagle** and daughter Che-Che settled in San Bernardino County in California. Their eldest son **Arthur** had moved to the US earlier, after working in London. Another daughter, **Bernadette**, was also in California.

"So they were just waiting for us," Sylvia says.

But even when she was in the US, Sylvia did not give up performing. She was in concert tours with her fellow "Oras ng Ligaya" cohost **Oscar Obligacion**, and other Fil-American talents.

"We have taken the show 'Oras ng Ligaya sa Amerika' to different places like Chicago, New York and California," she says. "Often, we would do fund-raising shows. I am always willing to help Filipinos in the States raise funds for their communities.

"God has been good to me," she adds. "Through my voice, I want to share my blessings."

Every year, Sylvia and her husband make it a point to come home and visit their relatives. She has a manager in Manila, **Ronnie Henares**, who finds occasional jobs for her whenever she's home on vacation.

"Before coming here, I would call up Ronnie so he could book me for TV appearances," Sylvia says. "At least I get jobs whenever I'm here."

Recently, it was Sylvia who got a call from Henares about a TV offer.

"He told me the role was perfect for me and he didn't want me to turn it down," Sylvia grants. "He asked me to consider the offer."

She now plays the conservative spinster sister of **Celia Rodriguez**, also a spinster, in "Biglang Sibol, Bayang Impasibol," the new comedy-drama produced by Television and Production Exponents Inc. (Tape Inc.). The show will replace the serial "Rio del Mar," which ends today.

"Biglang Sibol, Bayang Impasibol" is Tape's first dramedy. It airs starting Monday, March 12, at 1:30 p.m. daily on GMA-7, right after "Eat Bulaga," also produced by Tape.

"Bayang Sibol" also stars other big names such as **Nestor de Villa, Michael de Mesa** and **Delia Razon**, with **Gardo Versoza, Lara Fabregas, Jeffrey Quizon, Alessandra de Rossi, Lyka Ugarte, Lara Morena, Ynez Veneracion, Gladys Guevarra.** It is directed by **Jeffrey Jeturian** ("Tuhog"), one of the country's best young directors.

"I'm the old maid who every now and then breaks into song in the series," she says. "My character suits me perfectly. I get to ride a pedicab."

She says she had to convince her daughter Che-Che to let her come to Manila and work again.

"Che-Che is very attached to me because we stay in the same house," she explains. "I took care of her two daughters so it was also very hard for me to leave them.

"But my two older children explained to Che-Che that I wanted this offer, that's why she allowed me to go. But I miss them so badly. Last Christmas, we were all crying on the phone. My two granddaughters often call me up because they also miss me."

The veteran actress, who has a bachelor's degree in music from the UST Conservatory, has been married to Perez-de Tagle for 47 years now. "In three years, we will celebrate our golden anniversary," she beams.

The daughter of film director Olive La Torre has been performing since she was five, when she became a champion in a *kundiman* singing competition, bringing home a trophy and P50 after singing "Bulaklak ng Kawangis."

At 7, she sang her first "Ave Maria" in church in Intramuros. During the Japanese occupation, she performed in stage shows with the late **Tony Santos Sr., Leroy Salvador, Rogelio de la Rosa** and **Chiquito.**

"I am returning to show biz after being away for a long time," she says. "This is the will of the Lord for me."

Marvin's second

ACTOR **Marvin Agustin** opened a second branch of his Ricecapades last Wednesday on West Avenue in Quezon, beside Quickly. The outlets sells flavored rice like *bagoong, adobo* and Shanghai.

The first outlet of Ricecapades is at Robinson's Fairview and not SM Fairview, as we earlier said here.

LA TORRE. Plays a spinster in the new dramedy, "Biglang Sibol, Bayang Impasibol."

Gentxt 'sends' highlights of March events around the country

GLOBE handyphone Gentxt revs up the whole month of March with a series of parties and gigs exclusive to Gentxters that will once again make Gentxt the toast of the town.

March 10 sizzles with the Gentxt night at Streetlife, which starts 7:30 p.m. Free entrance, food and drinks await Gentxters at Glorietta's party place.

Globe handyphone subscribers who wish to be certified Gentxters may submit their applications at the Gentxt booth.

It's a date at the movies come March 13, 7:30 p.m. at SM Megamall, with the special advanced screening of "The Wedding Planner," a romantic comedy starring Jennifer Lopez and Matthew McConaughey.

A pair of tickets will be up for grabs for the first 30 Gentxters to go to Harrison Communications beginning March 12, at 4/F First Life Center Bldg., 174 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City. Look for Gentxter Cecille and flash your Gentxt card.

On March 16, Gentxt joins the people of Davao in commemoration of the region's festive day via the "Araw ng Dabaw" celebration with a special Gentxt party happening at The Venue, 9 p.m.

Be one of the first 100 Gentxters to go to the Globe Telecom Davao Menseng business center starting March 10 and get an entrance stub with corresponding consumable food and drinks for free. Applications for Gentxt card will also be accepted on this event.

Manila Gentxters will have their own party as Gentxt brings St. Patrick's Day at Bennigan's on March 17, 9 to 11 p.m.

The first 50 Gentxters to dine at Bennigan's before the 17th will get an exclusive invitation for a free dinner buffet on the feast of Ireland's patron saint.

March 22, Gentxt goes centerstage with "Crossover Live," at Café Overdrive in Pasong Tamo Extension, 8 p.m.

Be one of the first 15 Gentxters to go to Harrison Communications beginning March 21 and grind to the live music of Channels band.

March 28, Gentxt presents South Border Live, 8 p.m. at 8th Day, St. Francis Square in Ortigas Center.

The first 25 Gentxters to flash their cards at Harrison Communications instantly get a pair of free entrance tickets to the show.

To be part of these special events, be a certified Gentxter and experience the Gentxt level of fun.

Simply fill in application forms available at all Globe Telecom business centers and submit it with a copy of a valid ID and a birth document, plus P200 membership fee for all approved applications. Pre-paid subscribers are also required to bring P1,500 worth of used Globe Handyphone prepaid plus call cards, while post-paid subscribers must present any one of the last two months settled bill.

For more information, log on to www.gentxt.org or key in Gentxt and send it to 2333 to check out the latest events.

Pop sensation from Germany in Manila

MAKE way for ATC (A Touch of Class), the new pop sensations from Germany as they conquer Manila and the rest of the Philippines with their catchy hit singles "Around the World" and "My Heart Beats Like A Drum."

Both songs were certified European summer dance favorites of 2000, the same as "Macarena" was in 1997 and "Sexbomb" in 1999. Both tunes were also culled from the group's debut album, "Planet Pop," which has been recently released in the Philippines by BMG Records.

ATC is composed of four friends who come from different parts of the world. Joe (26) is from New Zealand, Sarah (25) is from Australia, Tracey (23) is from England and Livio (23) is from Italy.

The group is in town until March 11 for a Philippine promo tour of their debut album. They will hold shows at SM Bacoor at 4 p.m. today and SM Megamall at 3 p.m. on March 11.

Also watch out for ATC at various TV programs on GMA-7 like "Eat Bulaga," "SOP," "D-Day," "Master Showman," "Star Talk" and "Unang Hirit."

ATC worked out dynamic steps for their dance numbers, complemented by their extravagant outfits.

"Planet Pop" is available in CDs and cassettes at record stores everywhere, released locally by BMG Records (Pilipinas).

ATC's Philippine promo tour is presented by BMG Records (Pilipinas) Inc., with Stardust Antipolo at Seven Suites Hotel, SM Supermalls and Discovery Suites.

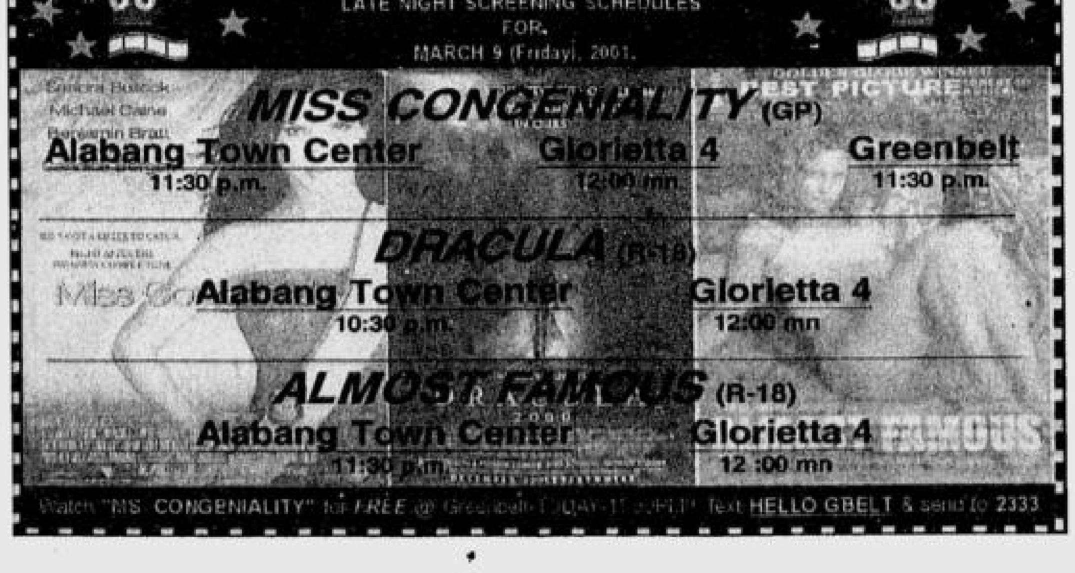
Visit www.click2music.com.ph for more info on ATC and their Philippine tour.

ATC

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

1 ALMOST FAMOUS - R 18 12:30, 3:05, 5:40, 8:15, 10:50	2 MISS CONGENIALITY - G 11:20, 1:45, 4:10, 6:35, 9:00, 11:15	3 HANNIBAL - R 18 12:20, 3:00, 5:40, 8:20, 11:00
4 DRACULA 2000 - R 18 11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:70, 10:00	5 PAY IT FORWARD - P 13 10:40, 1:10, 3:40, 6:10, 8:40, 11:20	6 MISS CONGENIALITY - G 10:20, 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15

MATINEE P80 00 · FREE SEATING · SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM · MON TO FRI



AYALA CINEMAS
AYALA CINEMAS
LATE NIGHT SCREENINGS
LATE NIGHT SCREENING SCHEDULES
FOR
MARCH 9 (Friday), 2001.
MISS CONGENIALITY (GP)
Alabang Town Center 11:30 p.m.
Glorietta 4 12:00 mn
Greenbelt 11:30 p.m.
DRACULA (R-18)
Alabang Town Center 10:30 p.m.
Glorietta 4 12:00 mn
ALMOST FAMOUS (R-18)
Alabang Town Center 11:30 p.m.
Glorietta 4 12:00 mn
Watch "MS. CONGENIALITY" for FREE @ Greenbelt. Text HELLO GBELT & send to 2333

MTRCB RATING ▶ R Restricted
Strictly for ADULTS
No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.
GOLDEN GLOBE WINNER!
BEST PICTURE
MUSICAL
BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS-Kate Hudson

ALMOST FAMOUS

Must-see film on sex & rock 'n roll

'Almost Famous' Now Showing

In the tradition of Cameron Crowe's Oscar-nominated JERRY MAGUIRE, ALMOST FAMOUS is a coming-of-age tale that is intelligent, well-written and infused with humor in unlikely places.

Inspired by the real-life experiences of the Academy Award nominee writer/director, ALMOST FAMOUS is the story of an unabashed rock 'n roll music fan tasked to write for Rolling Stone magazine in the '70s at age 15. As he joins the band Stillwater on tour, he befriends the band members and their groupies, and grows up, losing his virginity along the way.

ALMOST FAMOUS won a Golden Globe **BEST PICTURE** Award (Musical/Comedy), and 4 Academy Award nominations for Original Screenplay, Editing, and Supporting Actress for Kate Hudson and Frances McDormand. The movie also stars Billy Crudup, Jason Lee, Patrick Fugit, Anna Paquin and Fairuza Balk.

Embraced by critics, ALMOST FAMOUS is described as "absolutely fabulous," "honest and brilliant," "bighearted and bittersweet," and "filled with splendid performances."

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

An important part of my life ends today

Sandra Bullock
Michael Caine
Benjamin Bratt
and
Candice Bergen
SHE'S GOT A KILLER TO CATCH...
RIGHT AFTER THE SWIMSUIT COMPETITION.
Miss Congeniality

MTRCB RATING GP ALL AGES ADMITTED | NOW SHOWING | mossimo

KRIS AND TELL

Kris Aquino

HAVE you ever felt that even if you didn't want to, or seemed just a bit reluctant, it is inevitable for all of us to move on and grow up? Have you ever wondered why in moving on, you have to leave behind so much of what has become a part of you?

Today I close a very important chapter of my life. At 11 a.m., I will be hosting my last episode of "Today with Kris Aquino."

I started this program on Nov. 18, 1996 at ABS-CBN's 4 p.m. time slot. By April 1997 I was moved to the 11 a.m. slot when **Tessie Tomas** decided to give up her "Teysi ng Tahanan." For almost four years I've been a pre-lunch habit for quite a number of people, and in that time I'd like to believe that I've evolved not only as a host but also as a person.

When "Today with Kris" started, I was still in a live-in relationship that I was then unable to admit was headed nowhere. I was a young mom of a then-17-month-old **Joshua.**

As a host, my innate curiosity and my unstoppable mouth were already indications of a lively talk show host, but I was very raw and still prone to tears of frustration when the episode wasn't going my way. And my personal life required that I shy away from controversial topics (extra-marital affairs and familial discord, to name just two) that struck too close to home.

In the past four years my show, I'm proud to say, has had some concrete achievements. It was because of the consistent ratings performance and overall quality of "Today with Kris Aquino" that my first executive producer, **Gia Garchitorena Suyao,** was promoted to ABS-CBN production manager for all talk shows ("Sharon," "Martin Late at Nite," "The Buzz," "Jullie," "Feel at Home," "Sarap TV," and "Today with Kris").

Many of my first team of writers are now directors and head writers of top-rated ABS-CBN talk shows and dramas.

It was in the 2000 Star Awards for Television that we won in a tie with the respected tandem of Mel and Jay as Best Celebrity Talk Show and I won as Best Celebrity Talk Show Host. The very discriminating Catholic Mass Media Awards and the KBP Golden Dove Awards gave us nominations.

Don't get me wrong, I'm very excited to be starting "Balitang Kris" on Monday, March 12, at the 5:30 p.m., pre-"TV Patrol" slot. For a broadcast personality, taking over the slot that **Korina Sanchez** made her home for nearly five years is an encouraging promotion and an inspiring recognition. And yet, it feels very much like high school graduation.

High school was when we truly bonded with our classmates and *barkada*. We all eagerly awaited which university would grant us admission, and somehow, even if we got into the course of our choice at the school we chose, knowing that we would soon be going our separate ways put a damper on our excitement.

I cried most of this past weekend, after being informed that I will be leaving behind the writers, the staff, camera, crews, and director of "Today with Kris Aquino." They are staying behind to mount and take care of the new morning show that's taking over my vacated slot.

"Balitang Kris" will be a News and Current Affairs production, whereas "Today with Kris" and its successor are under "Production," or the Entertainment Division of ABS-CBN.

In a way it is a most Solomonic decision. In these recovering times nobody gets displaced, everybody is assured of a job, and the staffs of both shows get to exercise their expertise to the fullest.

I leave my staff with a very heavy heart. They saw me through some of my most anguished moments in my personal life, they nurtured my talents and enhanced my abilities. They exerted every effort to make my life easier.

Most of all, my "Today with Kris" staff genuinely made me feel loved, respected and appreciated.

To all of you who allowed me to be a part of your morning routines, and thus opened your homes to me, thank you. To the hundreds of people, celebrities, politicians, and everyday folk with extraordinary experiences to share, thank you for trusting me to help you tell your stories.

To the thousands of Filipinos, students and excursionists from all over the country who trooped to ABS-CBN Studio 5, thank you for making the effort to watch my show live and in person.

It's been an unforgettable journey, and I've reached this journey's destination.

I'm now headed in a new direction. I hope I've earned enough of your trust that you'll continue walking with me.

Concorde releases greatest hits of Aguilar, Papin

CONCORDE Records welcomes new releases of hits from two of its contract artists.

Two albums in VCD-Karaoke format contains best-of-the-best local pieces from original artists now recording their original songs—"Greatest Hits of Freddie Aguilar Vol. 1" and the "Phenomenal Hits of Imelda Papin Vol. 2."

Aguilar's album includes "Ipaglalaban Ko," "Magdalena," "Estudyante Blues," "Sigarilyo," "Ang Umaayaw ay Di Nagwawagi," "Mindanao" and "Larawan" among others.

Papin's record includes "Bakit Ikaw Pa," "Kapiling Mo, Kasuyo Ko," "Sana'y Ako Pa Rin," "Umaga Na, Wala Ka Pa," "Hapdi," "Offering of Love," and "Mahal Saan Ka Nanggaling Kagabi?"

'Billy Elliot' screening

CITYLITE 88.3 presents the advance screening of "Billy Elliot," 7:30 p.m. on March 13 at Cinema II of Shangri-La Plaza Mall.

The event is sponsored by Biogesic, Citibank and Men's Zone.

"Billy Elliot" (played by Jackie Bell) is an 11-year-old boy living in Northeast England in the mid-80s. While his gruff father and brother are taking part in a massive coal miners' strike, Billy goes to boxing lessons and furtively plays his late mother's piano out of loneliness.

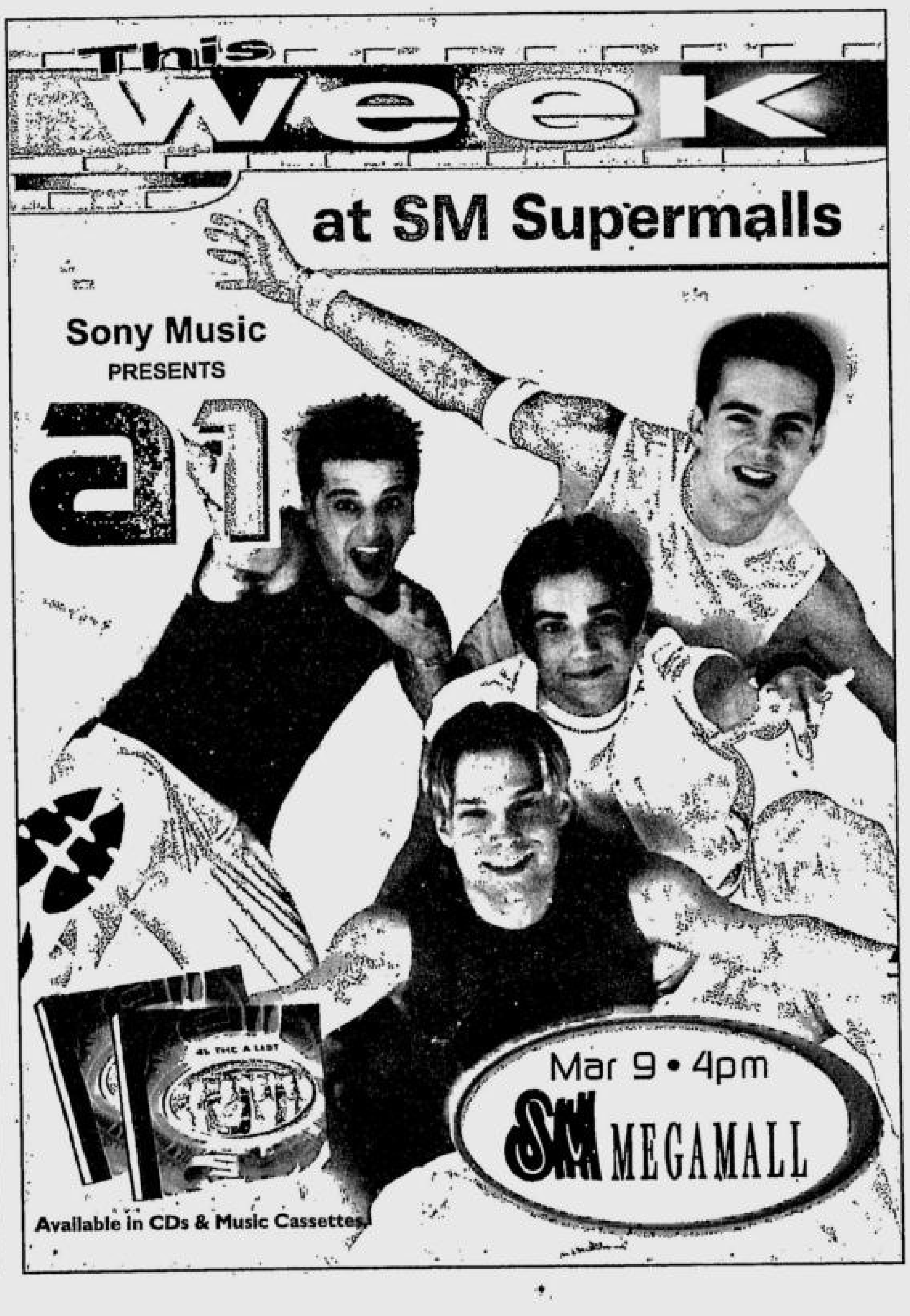
One day, Billy notices a ballet class nearby. Intrigued, he begins practicing and taking lessons from Mrs. Wilkinson (Julie Walters), a tough-minded teacher.

Billy begins to fall in love with ballet but keeps his lessons a secret from his family, who struggles to put food on the table while the strike drags on.

When his father finally learns the truth, a family crisis erupts and Billy struggles to prove that dancing is more than just a hobby, it's his dream.

SULIT UMULIT!
Talagang X-citing Umulit!
RENT 3 GET FREE COASTER
COUPON VALID FROM: MARCH 9-15, 2001
VIDEO CITY

SEE POSTERS FOR DETAILS.
PROMO PERIOD: March 1 - March 31, 2001
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 0790 SERIES OF 2000



ELECTROWORLD
The Biggest Business Store Network
IBM EPSON dot matrix printer
CASIO ECR - POS Systems SHARP fax machines
For all your office needs
Arrange a visit with our office solutions representative
CALL 812-3877 / 812-3745
or email us at electroworld@absconn.com.ph
Visit our website
www.electroworld.com.ph

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2001
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
B1

BUSINESS

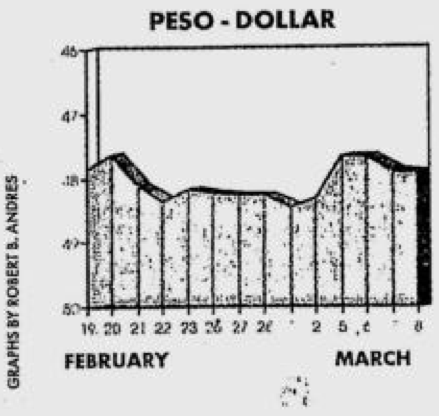
RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ▨ CORRIE S. NARISMA, Assistant Editor

Equitable PCI
BANK
MEMBER: PDIC
BancNet

SMC nears deal to buy Pure Foods

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



Peso-Dollar Rate

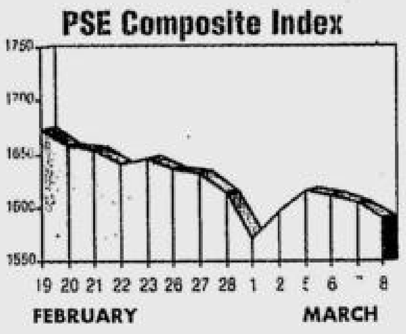
₱47.91 = $1
As of 5 p.m., March 8, 2001

¥119.98 = $1
The US dollar was trading at 119.98 as of 5 p.m., March 8, 2001

GOLD:$262.40/262.90
per ounce Hong Kong, March 8, 2001

STOCK MARKET

Stocks end lower



SHARES finished lower yesterday, pressured by the absence of fresh foreign funds as investors remained cautious while waiting for fresh market-moving news, traders said.

The 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange Index ended down 14.28 points, or 0.9 percent, at 1589.57, after shedding 0.5 percent Wednesday. The index has lost 1.7 percent since Tuesday.

(See stock market report on Page B6)

STOCKS/ B2

CASH-RICH food and beverage conglomerate San Miguel Corp. said yesterday it agreed to the terms to buy Pure Foods Corp. from the Ayala group in a deal valued at around P7 billion to P9 billion.

Pure Foods is the local market leader in meat processing, and has interests in livestock, animal feeds, flour and fast foods including the Burger King franchise.

"The company confirms it has agreed with Ayala Corp. on the indicative terms for the acquisition of Pure Foods. Talks are continuing and the parties have not yet signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU)," a San Miguel disclosure to the stock exchange said.

Both parties have yet to get board approval on the terms of the deal.

San Miguel is sitting on a cash hoard of about P43 billion from its earlier divestments in Coca-Cola Beverages and Nestle Philippines.

Officials from both companies declined to give the indicative valuation for Pure Foods, but they said the price is "within the range" of P7 billion to P9 billion ($145 million to $190 million).

A source from San Miguel told Reuters the two parties were still talking about what businesses of Pure Foods would be included in the deal.

The source said smaller businesses like the Burger King franchise and some idle properties worth several hundred million pesos were still being reviewed for possible exclusion.

"We're still in a negotiation stage, clearly there are some things that we've raised, we have not gotten into an agreement yet," said another San Miguel official who declined to be named.

"It's moving, we are several steps ahead compared to where we were about a month ago. But I cannot say this is something really done and can be disclosed," Rufino Luis Manotok, managing director for planning of Ayala Corp., told Reuters, referring to the negotiations.

Asked if the Ayala group will be selling all of its interests in Pure Foods, Manotok said: "We have 93 percent of Pure Foods and ... if we agree on the terms, yes, we will be selling all."

Ayala is selling Pure Foods to focus on its three core businesses: telecommunications, property and banking. The Ayala group earlier said it was talking to several parties for its stake in Pure Foods.

"There are several serious parties . . . they have really expressed their interest to pursue this except San Miguel came first . . . they know the business because they are also in the food business," Manotok said.

"Plus the fact I think they have a more special motivation to pursue this because they are flush with cash and it makes sense for them, with the operating synergies."

San Miguel officials said the next monthly meeting of its board of directors was set for March 29. Ayala Corp. said its next quarterly board meeting would be on March 22.

But both boards can call for a special meeting to discuss the terms of the Pure Foods sale. There are no such meetings scheduled yet, the officials said.

Pure Foods made a net income of P888.4 million in 2000 from P727.8 million a year earlier.

Reuters

Bangko Sentral cuts rates ahead of US Fed

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

ANTICIPATING a cut in US short-term interest rates, the policy-making Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas yesterday brought down overnight lending and borrowing rates further by another half-a-percentage point.

Effective Monday, the BSP's overnight borrowing rate will go down to 10.5 percent from 11 percent while its overnight lending rate will slide to 12.75 percent from 13.25 percent.

From early December to mid-February, monetary authorities gradually brought down the BSP's policy rates back to pre-crisis levels. The BSP raised overnight rates by four percentage points on Oct. 12 after the "Juetengate" scandal eroded investor confidence in the economy.

Monetary authorities took their cue yesterday from the lower February inflation of 6.7 percent announced last Monday, down from the previous month's 6.9 percent.

The US Federal Reserve is expected to announce another reduction in interest rates when it meets on March 20.

"The Monetary Board took into account the broad stability in the foreign exchange market, comfortable interest rate differentials, and favorable inflationary expectations in the second half of the year in reaching its decision," BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said.

The BSP earlier said it was waiting for two signals—a declining inflation trend and a cut in US short-term rates—before it would seriously discuss reducing its policy rates further.

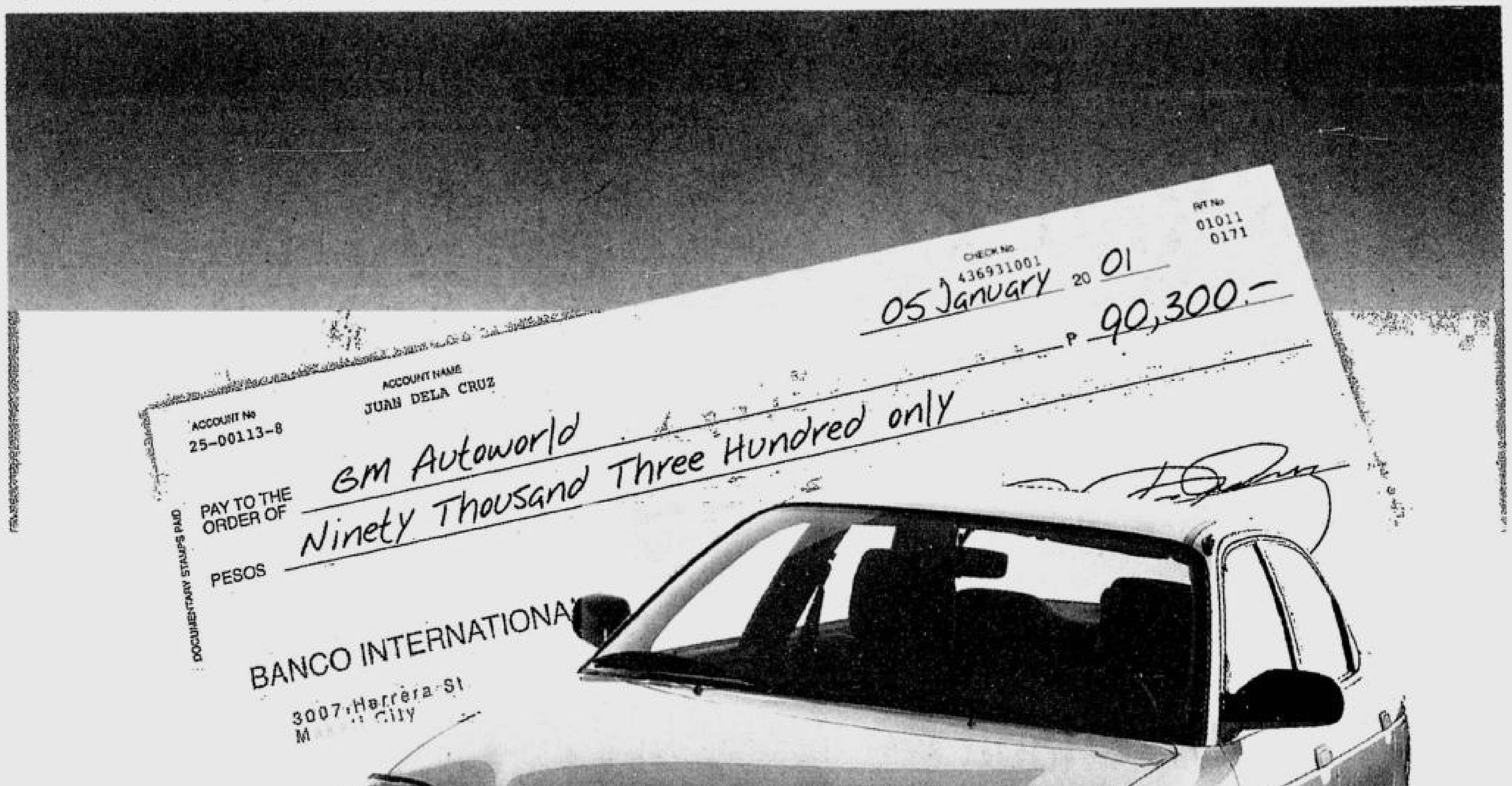
The central bank's forecast of a stronger peso this year also reinforced the resolve of monetary authorities to bring down interest rates.

Buenaventura had projected the peso to strengthen to 44 to $1 and average at 46 to the dollar this year.

BANGKO/ B3

CHEVROLET CASSIA 1.6L

DRIVE ONE HOME TODAY WITH ONLY ₱90,300 DOWN!



GM AutoWorld gives you the best deal on 1600 cars. Get the Chevrolet Cassia at terms you can't afford to pass up. With zero-interest or other low interest financing schemes, or a low down payment of ₱90,300, now's your best chance to upgrade to a 1600 – upgrade to a Chevy!

Hurry! This offer is good up to March 31, 2001 only.

Plus! FREE Sport-style body kit ASK YOUR DEALER ABOUT IT

MSRP - ₱ 602,000 M/T, ₱ 646,000 A/T

DOWN PAYMENT	MONTHLY PAYMENT 12 months	18 months	24 months	36 months	48 months
90,300	43,390	30,267	24,508	17,822	n.a.
120,400	40,616	28,332	22,945	16,685	13,610
180,600	35,117	24,462	19,819	14,412	11,756
240,800	30,100	20,592	16,694	12,139	9,902
301,000	25,083	16,722	13,568	9,866	8,048

Zero interest

* Above rates are based on M/T model

Capture the Spirit!

CHEVROLET

1.6 Liter, 16-valve engine · Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) · All-power features · Alpine Radio CD · Available in 5-speed M/T and 4-speed A/T

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO BANK FINANCING APPROVAL

GM AutoWorld MAKATI
2307 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 843-0217 to 20 / 843-0228
814-0603 / 814-0838

GM AutoWorld QUEZON AVENUE
1231 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 374-1250 to 59 / 372-6001
Fax No.: 372-6008

GM AutoWorld PAMPANGA
San Fernando – Gapan Rd., Dolores, San Fernando, Pampanga
Tel. No.: (45) 963-0888
Fax No.: (45) 963-1333

GM AutoWorld CEBU
Governor Cuenco Avenue, Banilad Road, Cebu City
Tel. No.: (32) 234-0426
Fax No.: (32) 231-7760

GM AutoWorld showrooms are open 7 days a week.

GM AutoWorld

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0698 Series of 2001

End-February forex reserves drop to $14.179B

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE COUNTRY'S gross international reserves slid by $213 million to $14.179 billion as of end-February.

The decline was traced to the payment of $400 million in maturing debts of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

Higher dollar inflows in February helped cap a bigger decline in the dollar reserves, which stood at $14.392 billion as of end-January. Without the inflows, the reserves would have dropped below $14 billion last month.

The BSP noted that the level of foreign exchange reserves in February could still finance 4.2 months' worth of imports of goods and services.

Comprised mostly of US dollars, the GIR is the total foreign currency holdings of the central bank. Gross reserves also include gold and special drawing rights, the currency used by the International Monetary Fund.

The central bank pointed out that with the successful completion of its $740-million loan to be signed next week, the dollar reserves could easily climb to $14.9 billion this month.

In January, debt repayments of state-owned firms such as National Power Corp. pulled down the GIR from the yearend level of $15.01 billion.

The BSP's planned borrowing of $400 million was oversubscribed, allowing it to raise a total of $740 million from a syndicate of 19 banks. The three-year loan would carry a spread of 2.7 percentage points over the London interbank offered rate.

The central bank wants to rebuild its GIR this year to $16 billion although its worst-case scenario is a reserve position of $14.5 billion.

The BSP said it was optimistic that foreign direct investments, portfolio inflows and even remittance from overseas contract workers would significantly improve this year.

Renewed investor confidence could prompt investors who had shelved investment plans in the country in the last four months to reconsider, BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said.

A bank analyst said there was a better chance for the BSP to achieve its GIR target this year given the stabilizing foreign exchange situation.

The analyst added that the dollar reserves last year had dwindled in part because of the BSP's habit of dipping into the GIR every time it intervened in the market.

"It looks like there is not much threat of intervention happening now," he noted. The peso suffered a beating last year until early this year because of the political crisis that culminated with the ouster of President Estrada last January.

Stocks end lower

(From page B1)

"There's no foreign money coming in, and that's what the market is waiting for," said KGI Securities vice president Fitzgerald Aclan. "I guess the attitude of foreign investors now is to wait for new developments."

Euphoria from Friday's Supreme Court ruling upholding the legitimacy of the administration of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has ebbed, leaving investors searching for fresh reasons to position in the market, said Aclan.

The court ruling quashed ousted leader Joseph Estrada's hopes of regaining power by having himself declared the legal president and Arroyo merely acting president.

But Aclan cited a host of concerns, most importantly Estrada's next move.

"If Estrada's camp tries new legal tactics to delay the whole proceeding, that can affect the stock market's performance," said Aclan.

Yesterday's announcement by the Philippine central bank that it was cutting policy rates by 0.50 percentage point should provide some much needed good news for the market, said A&A Securities research head Astro del Castillo.

"The rate cut could boost liquidity in the market," he said. "It's welcome news not only for stocks but also for the economy as a whole, since it will help encourage investments as the cost of capital goes down." *AP*

Deadline for Medicare Payments

The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) is reminding all employed members of the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) from both public and private sectors, of the new schedule in the payment and collection of contributions.

Payment should be made on or before the 10th of the month following the applicable month through any of the 27 PhilHealth Accredited Collecting Banks (ACBs) and their branches nationwide.

Below is the contribution table for your reference. This will be the basis for adjusting the monthly contributions to be shared equally by the employee-member and the employer.

Monthly Salary Range	Employer Share	Employee Share
P3,499.99 & below	P37.50	P37.50
P3,500.00 to P3,999.99	P43.75	P43.75
P4,000.00 to P4,499.99	P50.00	P50.00
P4,500.00 to P4,999.99	P56.25	P56.25
P5,000.00 toP5,499.99	P62.50	P62.50
P5,500.00 to P5,999.99	P68.75	P68.75
P6,000.00 to P6,499.99	P75.00	P75.00
P6,500.00 to P6,999.99	P81.25	P81.25
P7,000.00 to P7,499.99	P87.50	P87.50
P7,500.00 & up	P93.75	P93.75

NEGOSYONG FOOD FRANCHISE!!!
Flavored Rice BOX CHINESE STYLE
Open Location . . . . *Master/Unit Franchise
- Metro Manila
- Batangas
- Laguna
- Cavite
- Rizal
- Bulacan
- Baguio
- La Union
- Pampanga
- Pangasinan
- Bicol
- Ilocos Region
- Cebu
- Davao
- Isabela
- Cagayan De Oro
- General Santos
- Zamboanga
- Palawan
- Iloilo
- Bacolod

- HIGH PROFIT, Easy to Operate
- Training of Personnel
- Strong Marketing Support
- Fast Return of Investment

P10,000
FRAN.CON Franchise Selling & Development
21/F Unit 2110 Antel Global, J. Vargas Ave.
Cor. Meralco Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. nos.: 637-2309 • 637-2314 • 637-2316 • 637-2393

The Champion Office Pen

THE WORLD'S FIRST PATENTED U-SPRING TECHNOLOGY
DONG-A U-KNOCK

Feel the U-Spring difference!
Unlike standard designs, U-Knock's innovative U-shaped spring tip supports the ball with minimal wear as you write, delivering superior smoothness for the life of the pen.
Make your next pen a U-Knock. And enjoy smoother writing to the last drop!
DONG-A U-Knock
RETRACTABLE GEL-INK PEN
Smoothness that last...
U-Knock™ is a registered trademark of DONG-A Pencil Co. Ltd. Other product & company names are trademarks of their respective owners. All trademarks are used under authorization. © 2001
Available at National Book Store SM Expressions Diplomat Office 1 Superstore Merriam Webster Goodwill Bookstores

Get Expert Advice on Hair Loss from Svenson
Ms. Helen Sia
Svenson Manager

Q. Why do some young men lose their hair prematurely?
A. When a man is still young and baldness strikes, it's not right. We now know the main culprit of this problem is **Dihydrotestosterone (DHT).** This powerful hormone builds up around the follicles causing thinning and falling hair.

Q. So how can Svenson help these thinning and falling hair problems?
A. Tricho-DHT Inhibitor from Svenson stops the production of DHT. When used along with other Svenson treatments, hair stops falling and will become thicker.

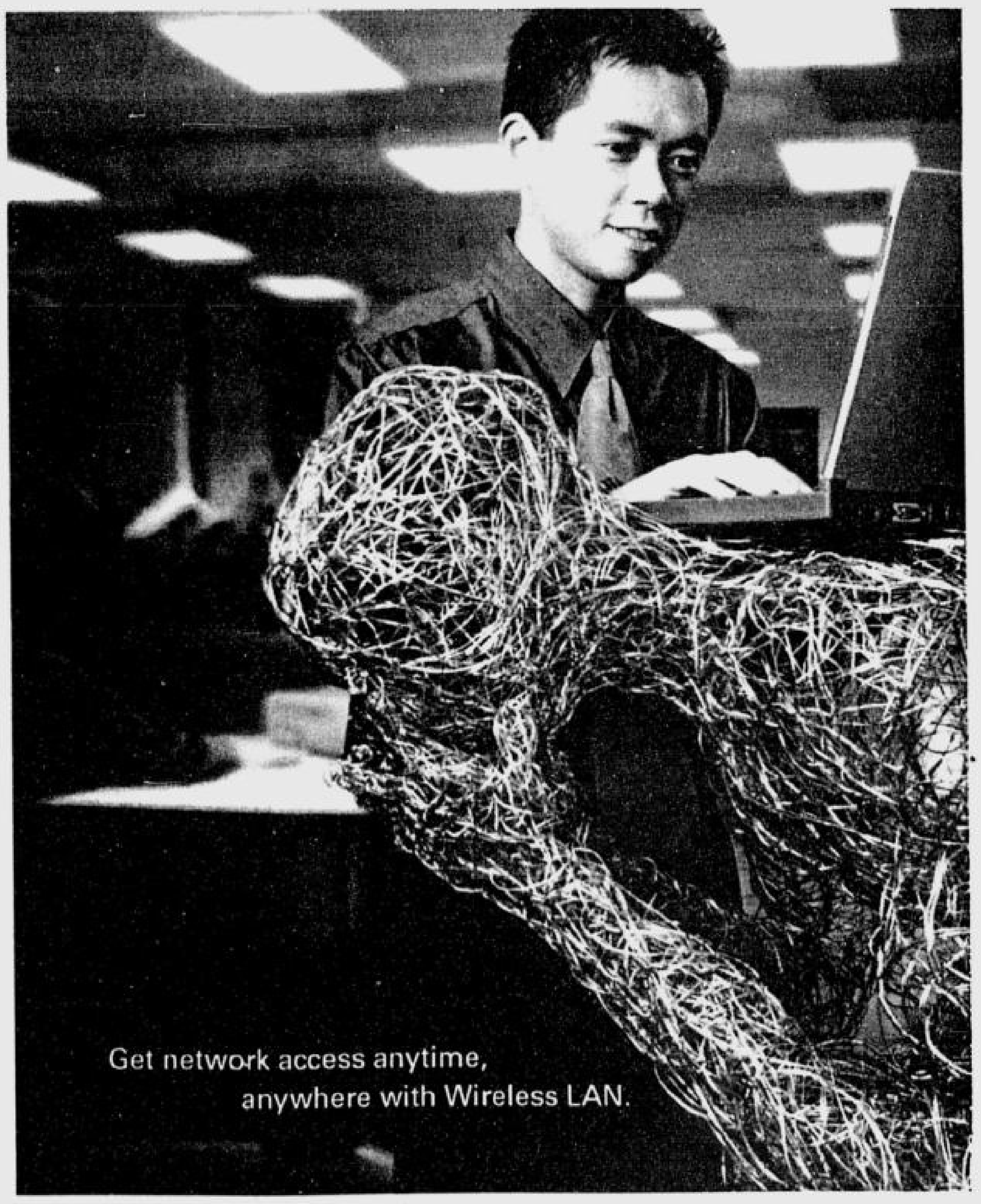
Q. What can Svenson do about a bald spot?
A. Svenson International offers **Cosmetic Transdermal Reconstruction (CTR),** the most exciting development in hair replacement technology today. It looks and feels exactly like your own hair, even down to the texture and color of your hair and scalp. It is painless, totally secure and unnoticeable. Aside from the usual shampooing and conditioning, it is maintenance-free. It gives the realistic appearance of hair growing from the bald area. It's undetectable even to a conscious probing touch.

If you start noticing falling hair, dandruff, and other hair and scalp problems, do something about it now at Svenson. ***Call or visit us now!***

Svenson INTERNATIONAL
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD

MAKATI	QUEZON CITY	BINONDO	ALABANG	CEBU
Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St.	Cedar Executive Bldg., Timog Avenue	Federal Tower Bldg., Dasmariñas St.	Citibank-Frabelle Bldg., Alabang-Zapote Rd.	Keppel Centre, Cebu City
817-2260 817-2194	372-6631 372-6632	243-0128 244-8913	842-1389 842-4181	032-2340851 032-2340853

MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) SATURDAY (8 AM - 3 PM)



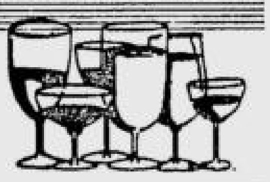
Sofas, coffee tables, floors, other people's desks, human sculptures... by offering wireless connection to your network, Cisco Aironet gives users the flexibility to work anywhere in the office. It also offers network managers scalability, allowing new users to be added without having to rewire or shut down the LAN. Cisco Aironet offers full integration with Cisco wired networks and enterprise-level security featuring 128-bit encryption with dynamic WEP key distribution. What's more, it has the intelligence to automatically select the clearest frequency channel and utilises Cisco Discovery Protocol (CDP) to monitor LAN activity centrally. So, unplug with Cisco Aironet today and get network access anytime, anywhere (our sincere apologies to all those artist who see their work turned into workstations).

For a FREE "Wireless Made Simple" CD, or for more information, go to www.cisco.com/asiapac/aironet
(offer good while supplies last)

CISCO SYSTEMS
EMPOWERING THE INTERNET GENERATION℠

Top gone

COCKTALES



By Victor C. Agustin

RATHER than be embroiled in investigations as to why Topwin Securities suddenly became the apple of SSS chair Carlos Arellano during the Estrada heyday, its corporate nominee, Lawrence Low-Nang, left the country right after the Edsa II revolt and never returned.

The Hong Kong-Canadian national, who left for Hong Kong on Feb. 5 ostensibly for a holiday, has been replaced by Carlos Benedict Rivilla IV to represent the brokerage firm.

Former Trade Undersecretary Tomas Apacible, sworn to secrecy about the joys of working for Topwin, still remains a board director of the stock brokerage firm despite his female principal having flown the coop as well.

And speaking of Arellano, the immunity arrangement between the justice department and the former head of the Social Security System apparently also includes whatever gains Chuckie and his boys made during the high-rolling days at the stock market.

Proof?

One of Chuckie's stock market operators has just bought a condo unit at Rockwell, no less. To ferry him to his new abode, the lucky chap also gifted himself with a blazing red Navigator.

Vera-city

THE NEW board of the sequestered IBC Channel 13 station, upon the urging of vice chair Philip Juico, has asked for a copy of the deed of sale executed by PCGG Commissioner Jorge Sarmiento and the mysterious buyer of Channel 13's FM radio station.

But, according to the grapevine, even the simple request of producing a copy of the deed of sale is proving to be a difficult task.

The IBC corporate secretary, Azucena Garcia, an ex-PCGG comptroller assigned to the sequestered station before she moved to the client side, is said to be keeping a copy of the contract tucked in her armpit for safekeeping, never even letting the document be left in the IBC office lest it fall into the hands of the two competing unions.

Despite having an entirely different set of incorporators, the winning bidder, Blockbuster Broadcasting, holds offices in Campos Rueda Building in Makati's Urban Avenue, the same building where FM broadcast king Louie Vera also holds office.

A certain Rolando Sulit has been identified as vendee representing Blockbuster in the transaction.

Not counting the Channel 13 FM station, Vera currently controls five other FM stations, or one-fifth of Metro Manila's FM industry.

Star-studded cases

ANOTHER estafa complaint has been filed by the Makati Prosecutor's Office against investment banker Jose Armando Eduque and his colleagues at the ill-fated East Asia Capital Corp.

The complainant this time is Cruzvale Inc., the owner of Diamond and other Cubao cinemas, represented by Ramon Mojica.

Mojica is seeking the return of about P77 million invested in long-term commercial papers, IOUs which East Asia apparently double-sold to other investors as well.

The woes of Eduque, who is part-owner of the glamorous Stars restaurant and bar in Glorietta 4, have led to another similarly named restaurant, Stars of Giorgio (the Middle Eastern restaurant in Pasong Tamo owned by George Sison), to distance itself in its print ads that it is "not connected in any way" with the Glorietta joint.

Short takes

- IF you want to see your favorite People Power Coalition candidates in the flesh but not under the blazing sun, go to the Robinsons Galleria mall in Ermita tomorrow noon. The 13 senatorial candidates will stop there for lunch and work the weekend crowd and the mall rats.
- PLEASE stop sending Cocktales complaints about Sky Cable service. For the past three days now, even Cocktales' own Sky Cable's audio and video signals have gone from bad to simply horrible.

Heard through the grapevine

THE DIRECTOR of Xavier School, Father Moran, is being transferred to Zamboanga by his Jesuit superiors not because of the ugly rumors circulating in the Chinese school but on account of the priest's ill health.

An internal investigation, by the way, has cleared the Jesuit of all the allegations leveled against his person.

(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)

Free-trade pact with US pushed

By GIL C. CABACUNGAN JR.

TOP American businessmen who visited the country last month have offered to lay the groundwork for the signing of a bilateral free trade agreement (FTA) between the United States and the Philippines, similar to an open trade deal made by Singapore with New Zealand and Japan last year.

But the Department of Trade and Industry is not biting, claiming that the Philippine economy was not yet prepared to fully open its doors to American goods.

In a discussion paper submitted by US-Asean Business Council Inc. president Ernest Z. Bower, the group composed of top American companies operating in the country has endorsed a bilateral FTA with the Philippines.

The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the country's largest business organization, has previously made a similar call urging the Philippines to follow the lead of Singapore in forging bilateral FTAs with non-Asean countries in order to get a bigger share of exports and investments from the United States and Europe.

Singapore, which has signed FTAs with New Zealand and Japan, is planning to forge similar deals with Canada, Australia, India and Mexico. Singapore's moves have drawn sharp criticism from Asean members specially from Malaysia, which warned that these bilateral deals might be used by other countries to get into the Asean Free Trade Area (with more than half a billion population) using Singapore as the gateway.

But Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas II said the Philippines was not yet ready to forge a bilateral FTA with the United States. "We have to respond to the globalization of trade at our pace to ensure that industries will survive," Roxas said.

While such a move would be a tremendous boon to Filipino consumers who love American brands and manufacturers who import their raw materials from the United States, Roxas said there would be more factories that would be affected because they could not compete with American companies.

Although the Philippines enjoys a trade surplus with the United States, this is mainly due to the quotas given by Washington to favored developing countries. These quotas are scheduled to be phased out starting 2004 and the Philippines is in serious danger of losing this market if it does not shape up to keep abreast with the competition.

Bangko Sentral cuts rates ahead of US fed

(From page B1)

Treasury bill yields are expected to react favorably to the central bank's rate cut announcement. Last Monday, the 91-day treasury bill rate went down by 12.8 basis points to 10.328 percent from 10.456 percent, the 182-day rate slid to 11.56 percent from 11.783 percent, and the 364-day rate eased to 12.453 percent from 12.497 percent.

National Treasurer Sergio Edeza had been urging the BSP to pre-empt the US Federal Reserve movement in order to bring local interest rates down further.

Buenaventura said there was a good chance that the US Fed "would do something before the end of the month."

"The board also considered the balance of risks between output and inflation. With external weakness posed by the slowing of US economy and other major economies, and with inflation contained, some easing of the monetary policy setting is warranted," he said.

NEGOSYONG FOOD FRANCHISE!!!
SPECIAL PRODUCTS:
V. LAPID'S Chicharon
Chicharon
CRISPY: PATA, ULO, CHICKEN
PORKY
ONLY P10,000
*Master/Unit Franchise
Open Location
- Metro Manila
- Batangas
- Laguna
- Cavite
- Rizal
- Bulacan
- Bagulo
- La Union
- Pampanga
- Pangasinan
- Bicol
- Ilocos Region
- Cebu
- Davao
- Isabela
- Cagayan De Oro
- General Santos
- Zamboanga
- Palawan
- Iloilo
- Bacolod
Visit us at:
FRAN.CON
Franchise Selling/Dev't.
21/F Unit 2110 Antel Global, J. Vargas Ave.
Cor. Meralco Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. nos.: 637-2309 • 637-2314 • 637-2316 • 637-2393

We're No. 1 in Pickups.*

NISSAN FRONTIER
The Frontier of Pickups

2.7L or 3.2L diesel engine in 4x2 or 4x4 models • Automatic or manual transmission • Driver side airbag and side impact beams

*No.1 in the combined 4x2 & 4x4 Double Cab Compact Pickup Segment. No.1 in the 4x2 Double Cab Compact Pickup Segment. Based on the official figures submitted by members of the Truck Manufacturers' Association for the year 2000.

Universal Motors Corporation
Exclusive assembler and distributor of Nissan light commercial and recreational vehicles.
www.nissanecenter.com

METRO MANILA DEALERS: CORE AUTOMOTIVE RESOURCES, INC. (Makati) Tel. Nos. 818-9484 / 818-4598 / 892-8217 • Service With A Touch (SWAT) Tel. No. 810-0151 loc.334 / 347 • Universal Services & Technical Center Tel. Nos. 816-7073 to 75 / 892-7639 • CORE AUTOMOTIVE RESOURCES, INC. (Quezon Ave.) Tel. Nos. 742-5192 to 98 • NISSAN CENTRAL MANILA Tel. Nos. 251-9000 to 67 / 251-9056 • MANTRADE DEVELOPMENT CORP. (Makati) Tel. Nos. 843-3316 to 23 / 812-7752 to 57 • NISSAN ALABANG Tel. Nos. 873-2882 / 873-2845 / 873-2849 / 873-2770 to 71 • BROADWAY MOTOR SALES, INC. (Manila) Tel. Nos. 526-9061 to 64 / 400-1522 • NISSAN GALLERY-ORTIGAS Tel. Nos. 633-2545 / 635-5888 / 438-4539 • NISSAN NORTH EDSA Tel. Nos. 455-8980 / 330-5331 • NISSAN COMMONWEALTH, INC. Tel. Nos. 932-0428 to 51 / 932-4001 • LUZON DEALERS: NISSAN SOUTHWOODS Manila Line: 845-1686 / (046) 430-1681 • LISAM ENTERPRISES INC., (Nissan Naga) Tel. Nos. (054) 723-577 to 79 • WORLD CARS INC. (Bulacan) Tel. Nos. (044) 766-2545 / 766-2425 • Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija Tel. Nos. (044) 463-1570 / 463-7279 • Santiago City, Isabela Tel. No. (078) 682-8850 • XENTREX AUTOMOTIVE, INC. (Pangasinan) Tel. Nos. (075) 522-0528, 522-2656 • NISSAN PAMPANGA Tel. Nos. (045) 961-5481 / 961-5461 to 62 • ROYCE MOTOR CENTER, INC. (Nueva Ecija) Tel. Nos. (044) 463-7210 to 12 / 463-5088 • Malolos, Bulacan Tel. Nos. (044) 791-2749 / 791-5301 • Highway Baliuag, Bulacan Tel. Nos. (044) 766-0296 • Santiago, Isabela Tel. Nos. (078) 682-7454 • Pampanga Tel. Nos. (045) 961-7773 to 74 • VISAYAS DEALERS: S&J MOTORS INC., (Nissan Iloilo) Tel. Nos. (033) 320-4051 to 54 • PO'S MARKETING ENTERPRISE, INC., (Nissan Bacolod) Tel. Nos. (034) 435-1102 / 435-1311 • NISSAN CEBU DISTRIBUTORS, INC. Tel. Nos. (032) 346-0360 / 346-8430 / 346-8422 to 25 • MINDANAO DEALERS: DAVAO UNICAR CORP. Tel. Nos. (082) 221-1914 to 17 / 227-8712 • General Santos City Tel. No. (083) 552-3228 • NISSAN CAGAYAN DE ORO Tel. Nos. (08822) 728-686

Japan firm to make Subic a regional production hub

By GIL C. CABACUNGAN JR.

JAPANESE wood processing giant Juken Sangyo Co. Ltd. is keen on developing its $20-million factory at ,the Subic Bay Techno Park as its main overseas manufacturing hub in the region to meet rising demand for wooden interior materials.

Juken Sangyo president Toshio Nakamoto said the company chose the former American naval base as its factory site because of its strategic location that will make it feasible to bring in raw materials from New Zealand to be processed here and then shipped out to Japan. He also cited the high-quality and relatively low-cost labor in the country as well as the perks offered by the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority.

Juken Sangyo's 4.5-hectare factory in Subic is its third plant outside Japan after New Zealand and China. The Philippine factory will boost Juken Sangyo's production capacity by 50 percent. It will employ 1,000 Filipinos.

This is comparable to the Japanese company's plant in New Zealand which has three wood-processing mills with 1,000 employees and 65,000 hectares of Radiata Pine plantation where the dried veneer and sawn lumber to be used in the Subic plant will come from.

Juken Sangyo is one of the world's leading producer of wooden interior materials for houses and offices. They are used for walls, panels, staircases, doors, built-in wardrobes, kitchen cabinets and interior boards. Its output of plywood, laminated veneer lumber (LVL), and laminated lumber will be exported to Japan. The company said demand for engineered wood products has been picking up since the Japanese government passed a new Quality Assurance Law for all wooden products last year.

The plant was inaugurated yesterday with top officials of Japanese corporations and representatives of the Japanese media in attendance.

SBMA Chair Felicito Payumo said Juken Sangyo would keep the Subic port busy with at least 750 containers of laminated veneer and processed lumber shipped every month to Hiroshima. Payumo also expects trading opportunities from shipments of radiate pine logs from New Zealand to Juken Sangyo's Subic factory.

"The regularity of ships calling on Subic from Japan and New Zealand could spur more enterprises to piggy back on Juken Sangyo's cargo. These include agriculture products such as pineapples, mangoes, bananas, cut flowers and processed chicken meat," Payumo said.

With the anticipated increase in the volume of trading at the Subic port, Payumo said the SBMA has moved to fast-track the development of the port (using a loan of 16.5-billion yen from the Japan Bank for International Development) and the interconnection of Subic to Clark's airport (to be funded by the Obuchi Fund).

Choosing between career and family

LABOR MANAGEMENT FORUM

Josephus B. Jimenez

EVERY moment in life, we are faced with a choice. Which should command our preference—the demands of our job or the duties to our family? If there is a board meeting today at the same hours that our son graduates from school, where should we go—to the board room or to the graduation ceremony? If we have to make a very important presentation tomorrow, so as to advance our career, but our wife says she has to see the doctor on a suspicion of cancer, which appointment should we keep?

These are the daily battles of conscience we have to wage, trying to keep a balance between our responsibility to earn a living and our opportunity to live a life. And our choices invariably reveal who we really are. Our preferences indicate our true character. Our priorities are the best indicators of our real identity.

What profits success

I know that many of you out there would go for career on the pretension that after all, you are doing all these for the family. Many of you, dear readers, would rather become outstanding employees, model personnel instead of being doting fathers or loving husbands. Many of you would opt to perform exceedingly well in the office even if you work 12 to 16 hours a day, going home only to change clothes or catch a few hours of sleep. But what for? At the end of the day, what have you accomplished?

What profits a highly successful professional or wealthy businessman if ultimately, he loses his family, wrecks his marriage or dishonors the name he will leave to his children? What has a rich man accomplished if he has built a fortune and founded conglomerates of highly profitable companies and yet drives his own wife to vices or infidelity, his children to drugs and delinquency and himself to spiritual decay and total burnout?

What matters most

Look around you. The evidence is overwhelming and irreversible. Families are shattered. Marriages are broken. Lives are reduced to utter emptiness. Even as man advances in wealth and success, he deteriorates on the basic standards of joy, peace and serenity. As we all compete and struggle for power and possessions, we often neglect what really matters most. In our insatiable mania for supremacy over the rest, we often forget the most important things in life.

I will respect your choice. But as for me, my priorities are clear. Between career and family, I will always go for family. I can forego that board meeting and earn the ire of my boss or make a bad impression on my peers. But I shall not inflict a lifetime trauma on my son by sending him alone to graduate without his dad. I can forget that business presentation and lose a valued client or waste a career promotion, but I cannot leave my wife alone in her moments of anxiety.

Meaningless

Why should a well-known public figure commit suicide given all his fame and fortune? Can his wealth and wisdom compensate for ruptures in his relationships? Why should a wife of a famous politician commit adultery with the family driver? Is it lust or vain fixation for the pleasures of the flesh? Or is it the pain of being neglected and ignored by the husband she used to adore? Why should a son cut his wrist or a daughter drink poison despite all the luxuries and pleasures they are showered with? Can money replace love? Can pleasure take the place of affections?

In this age of top line technology and convenience gadgets, why are humans talking to computers rather than with each other? Why are we retrenching people and replacing them with robots and machines? Why have we lost the simple joys of nurturing relationships with bank tellers because we have replaced them with ATMs? Why, with all our cells, e-mails, Internets, websites or the endemic texting, are we no longer communicating? Why are family members no longer talking to each other?

The ultimate hell

To succeed in career and fail in the family is, to me, the ultimate hell. John Grisham, that famous author of legal fictions wrote "The Testament," which tells of a highly successful industrialist who made billions of dollars but lost his family. In the first 10 pages of the novel, he jumped to his death from his multistory building in front of his self-centered children. By his will, he disinherited all of them and bequeathed his entire estate to an illegitimate daughter who refused to accept it. That is the ultimate irony, those who lusted for money lost it. Those who were given all the money, refused it.

In all his dozen masterpieces, Grisham tells us about the importance of family. "A Time to Kill" tells of a father who went to jail for killing his daughter's rapists. Indeed, we who are simple folks should learn from the mistakes of others. We should straighten our lives and put our priorities in order. I don't know about you. But as for me and my house, our credo is: There is no success in a career that can make up for a failure in the family.

HR managers' help

PMAP, the association of HR managers, adopts as an integral component of its program marriage encounters for employees. Under the stewardship of Wyeth's Jojo Sumpaico, we aim to strengthen family bonds. A happy family helps one to become a good employee. Career and family can go well together.

There is a need to balance the personnel's commitment to career and their responsibilities to loved ones. PMAP aims to help working men and women reconcile conflicts between these two areas. For one, I'm trying my best to keep this balance.

But if forced to make a choice between career and family, I'll gladly choose the latter. This is my philosophy, my article of faith. I pray and work hard to live up to it.

(For comments, you can reach the writer at the following e-mail address: josephus.jimenez@pcppi.com.ph)

Security Bank introduces DigiBanker

SECURITY Bank yesterday launched the Security DigiBanker, a Web-based solution to address the growing complexity and exacting cash management needs of corporations.

"The era of mega-mergers, electronic banking, and the Internet have changed the landscape of the banking industry in the Philippines in recent years," says Manny Narciso, the bank's first vice president and head of the newly formed cash management division of the bank.

In the last two years, Security Bank has been preparing itself for the new age of banking, laying the proper foundation to enable the bank to provide technologically advanced and far-reaching products and services.

While Security Bank has established a strong presence in the lending market, the bank now sees a more fertile ground where it can expand its scope of services to include transaction banking.

"We see DigiBanker as the ultimate in adding value to our corporate clients by helping them efficiently manage and thus maximize their operating funds flow," says Narciso.

As technology is a key element, DigiBanker is delivered via an Internet banking platform used extensively by leading banks in the Asian region, but customized for the Philippine corporate community. The entire set of corporate cash management solutions offered under DigiBanker is therefore accessible via the Internet. Combined with a nationwide network of 129 branches that is 100-percent online, customers can transact practically from anywhere in the world to anywhere in the country, anytime. The result is a superior and complete cash management solution that gives Security Bank's corporate clients real competitive advantage in their respective businesses.

A Statement of Support
for
Ambassador Bienvenido A. Tan, Jr.

We, the Board of Trustees, Management and Staff of the Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP), reaffirm our faith in the honesty, integrity and honor of Ambassador Bienvenido A. Tan, Jr.

As a co-founder, former President and Executive Director, and a Trustee of PBSP, Amb. Tan has served the Foundation unselfishly and with the highest professional and moral standards. The values of excellence, trust, honesty, and dedication to service which mark his work with PBSP are the same values he brought to Government when he joined it in 1986.

We believe that his acts which are now in question when he was Commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue were made above-board and in the interest of the country, and were the most practicable in the circumstances then.

In these trying moments, when Ambassador Tan's integrity is being put to the test, we stand by him resolutely.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MANUEL V. PANGILINAN
President & CEO
Phil. Long Distance Telephone Co.
Chair, PBSP

MA. LUISA Y. PEREZ-RUBIO
Chair
Pacific Products, Inc.
President, PBSP

ROBERTO R. ROMULO
Chair
Equitable Cardnetwork, Inc.
Co-Vice Chair, PBSP

JESUS P. TAMBUNTING
Chair & CEO
Planters Development Bank
Co-Vice Chair, PBSP

RAMON R. DEL ROSARIO, JR.
Chair & CEO
AB Capital & Investment Corporation
Treasurer, PBSP

ROBERTO E. ABOITIZ
Senior Vice-President
Aboitiz & Company, Inc.

JOSELITO D. CAMPOS, JR.
Sr. Vice-Pres. & Sr. Exec. Officer
United Laboratories, Inc.

CORAZON S. DE LA PAZ
Chair & Senior Partner
Joaquin Cunanan & Co.

RAMON Y. DIMACALI
Chair
IBM Philippines, Inc.

PAUL G. DOMINGUEZ
Director
Sarangani Agricultural Co., Inc.

OSCAR J. HILADO
Chair & CEO
Phil. Investment Mgt. Consultants, Inc.

OSCAR M. LOPEZ, SR.
Chair & CEO
First Philippine Holdings Corp.

LUIS P. LORENZO, JR.
Chair
Del Monte Philippines, Inc.

RICARDO S. PASCUA
President & CEO
Fort Bonifacio Development Corp.

CESAR V. PURISIMA
Chair & Managing Partner
Sycip, Gorres, Velayo & Co.

OSCAR S. REYES
Country Chair
Shell Companies in the Phils.

JUAN B. SANTOS
Chair & CEO
Nestlé-Philippines, Inc.

ANDRES SORIANO III
Chair & CEO
Andres Soriano Corporation

JOSE A. SYJUCO, JR.
Chair & CEO
Petron Corporation

CATHERINE M. WEIR
Country Corporate Officer
Citibank N.A.

30 years
PBSP 1970-2000
Philippine Business for Social Progress

INVESTMENTS, TRADE

RP, Malaysia move to settle differences

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE PHILIPPINES and Malaysia are moving to patch up their trade and investment relations that have been strained by a string of botched deals involving a bankrupt steel manufacturer and ill-fated car assembly plant.

Trade Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II told a delegation of Malaysian businessmen led by his Malaysian counterpart Rafidah Aziz that the Philippines was still interested in finding an amicable settlement to the National Steel Corp. debacle.

Philippine-Malaysia relations have been strained since NSC closed down its Iligan City plant in November 1999 and local creditor-banks took over the company's assets after failing to find a white knight to save the company from its debt woes and loss-making operations. The NSC brouhaha nearly erupted into a diplomatic row when the local government of Iligan City asked the national government to declare the steelmaker's top Malaysian persona non grata.

The Wing Tiek group of Malaysia took over the majority control of NSC from the Philippine government in 1996. The Malaysian investors, however, could not get NSC off its losses and it was forced to turn over control to the Renong Bhd. Hottick Investments group in 1998.

Renong-Hottick wanted the Securities and Exchange Commission to lift its liquidation order on NSC so that it could sell its shares in the company and recover part of its doomed investments from the shuttered steelmaker.

Aziz said her government was also moving fast to find a solution to the NSC issue where the Malaysian government's private investment arm, Renong, is now the majority owner. But she refused to make any updates on the issue.

On the Proton issue, Aziz said the Malaysian government was still interested in re-introducing the Proton models in the country.

Proton, which was taken over by the state-run Malaysian oil firm Petronas, is still determining which models are suitable to the Philippine market.

Proton had committed under the Ramos administration to invest P4 billion for an assembly plant at the former President's hometown in Pangasinan. Proton was granted perks to bring in Proton models from Malaysia in preparation for its entry into the Philippine market. Proton, however, did not carry out the second phase of its investment plan due to weak market conditions. But industry pundits noted that the Malaysian carmaker had no intentions of going into assembly in the country.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

In compliance with the NTC's regulatory requirements on the publication of rates, PT&T announces its rates for Foreign Currency Adjustment (FCA) and BASIC LOCAL SERVICE incorporating the FCA at average
Reference Forex Rate of P50.97: US$1.00

Starting February 1, 2001 Billing Dates

Rizal Area and San Pedro, Laguna

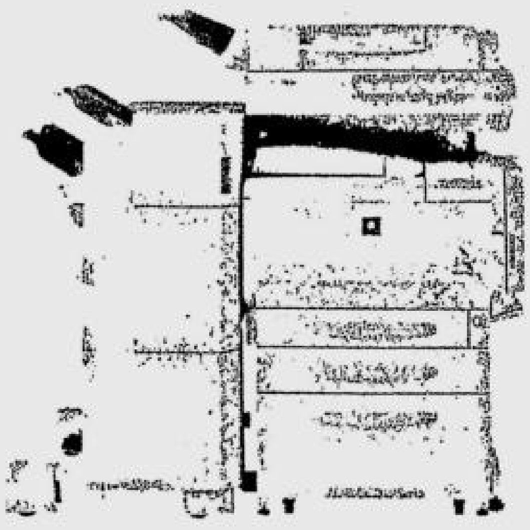
	Applicable FCA	*10% E-VAT*	*Total Rate*
Business	P1,185.38	P118.54	P1,303.92
Residential	P 522.72	P 52.27	P 575.00

Laguna Area except San Pedro

	Applicable FCA	*10% E-VAT*	*Total Rate*
Business	P1,065.38	P106.54	P1,171.92
Residential	P 522.73	P 52.27	P 575.00

PT&T
Making Life Better Through Communications

MINOLTA
COPIERS • DIGITAL COPIERS/PRINTERS • COLOR COPIERS



- High-quality copying
- High productivity
- User friendly
- High reliability
- Connectivity
- Environment friendly
- Superior after-sales service

COPIERS (CS-PRO Series):
EP 1030 EP 1031 EP 1054
EP 2030 EP 3000 EP 4000
EP 5000 EP 8015

DIGITAL COPIERS/PRINTERS:
DiALTA Series
Di 151 Di 181 Di 350
Di 250 Di 520 Di 620

COLOR COPIERS/PRINTERS:
CF 910 CF 911 CF2001

ORIGINAL MINOLTA COPIER TONER & SPAREPARTS
can be purchased from any of our sales offices nationwide.
If you want your old Minolta copier serviced,
call us about the Minolta First Club at Tel. 7532222.

Exclusively Distributed in the Philippines by:
COPYLANDIA
OFFICE SYSTEMS CORPORATION
The Total Provider of Copy and Print Solutions.
PHOTOCOPIERS • COLOR COPIERS • RISOGRAPH MACHINES
LASER PRINTERS • WIDE FORMAT COPIERS • BLUEPRINTERS
OFFSET MACHINES • PLATEMAKERS • COLLATORS • BINDERS
PAPER SHREDDERS • PAPER CUTTERS • BALING PRESSES
www.copylandia.com

VISIT OUR MAKATI SHOWROOM
G/F Makati Executive Center, 114 L.P. Leviste cor
Herrera Streets, Salcedo Village, Makati City

CALL US @ TEL. NOS. 753-3333 or 750-7960

NATIONWIDE BRANCH NETWORK
ANGELES 8872500, 322-1707 • BACOLOD 435-0193
CEBU 232-4520 • CAGAYAN DE ORO 857-4249
DAGUPAN 515-3306 • DAVAO 224-0792
DUMAGUETE 225-4759 • ILIGAN 221-3710
ILOILO 320-7488 • LIPA 757-0235 • LOS BAÑOS 536-5458
TACLOBAN 321-7610 • TAGBILARAN 235-3431
ZAMBOANGA 991-2446

AMC QUEEN
SUMMER MADNESS

Only 100 sets available !

Market Price ~~P 12,000.00~~
Now at Unbelievable Offer
P 3,990.00 only

Quality Features
- High-quality 18/10 stainless steel.
- Food warms quickly and material retains heat well.
- Suitable for all cooking sources; electric and gas stoves or glass and ceramic or halogen bummers.
- Healthy preparation of food. Cooking with little water and frying with little fat minimizes loss of vitamins, mineral and flavours.
- Especially suited for diet menus as food does not have to be salted.
- Practical and attractive. No corners to gather food and fat particles.
- Oven and diswasher safe.
- Handle will not heat up.
- Easy to clean.

18/10 USA Stainless Steel

Imported High Quality
8 pcs. 18/10 USA Stainless Steel
Cookware
(World's Finest Products)

Please Call
to make reservation
for your set.
First call, First get

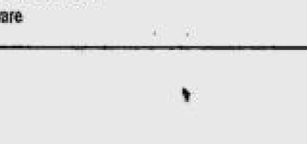
Grab this best offer at:
# 44-II-SF, 2nd Floor, Phase-II Ali Mall, Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City Tel. No. 421-05-49
Unit No. A-98, Ground Floor, Ever Gotesco, Ortigas Complex, Ortigas Avenue Extension, Pasig City Tel. No. 656-66-09
Unit C-18a & 18b, Ground Floor, Building C, Fiesta World Mall, Marawoy, Lipa City, Batangas Tel. No. (043) 404-12-33
Unit N-16, Second Floor, Harrison Plaza Shopping Complex, A. Mabini & Adriatico Streets, Malate, Manila City Tel. No. 526-25-60
Unit Space L4-30 (Level 4), Robinson's Place, Imus Cavite Tel. No. (046) 875-25-67
Unit S-26B, Metropolis Alabang, South Super Highway, Muntinlupa City Tel. No. 850-81-51
Shop C, Unit No.4, Second Floor, Ever Gotesco, Grand Central, Rizal Avenue Extension, Caloocan City Tel. No. 365-03-29
Rustan's Cubao, Quezon City Cell. No. 0917-7910445 (Ms. Liza)
SM South Mall Cell. No. 0917-8105336 (Mr. Troy)
Ever Commonwealth, Fairview, Quezon City Cell. No. 0917-8105337 (Mr. Peach)
Liberty Center, (Pure Gold) Shaw Blvd. Cell. No. 0917-8105339 (Ms. Jessica)
Tutuban Center Mall, Manila Cell. No. 0917-5344580 (Ms. Cha)
Virra Mall, Greenhills Cell. No. 0917-8116291 (Mr. Alvin)
Festival Mall, Alabang Cell. No. 0917-7910490 (Mr. Ronaldo)

Customer Service Hotline
Tel. No. 637-23-30 up to 35 local 12,
for more details

or visit our website
www.aowa.com

Please present this ad to avail
of this unbelievable offer.
Not valid for xerox copy.

Market Price ~~P 12,000.00~~
Now at
Unbelievable Offer
P 3,990.00
only



8 Pcs. 18/10 USA Stainless Steel
Cookware

No more shady deals, former finance chief tells SSS, GSIS

By Doris C. Dumlao

FORMER Finance Secretary Ramon del Rosario Jr. said yesterday the country's state pension funds should stay away from shady deals similar to those they were accused of entering into under the Estrada administration.

In a speech during the Asian CEOs forum, Del Rosario said the Social Security System and the Government Service Insurance System "should invest in companies that not only have viable and promising businesses, but also promote the interests of all their stakeholders and are transparent in the way they run their businesses."

Del Rosario is currently vice chair of the Phinma group of companies and chair of AB Capital & Investment Corp.

"They should avoid investing in transactions that are hatched in clandestine backroom deals. Such a policy would be beneficial not only in promoting transparency and good governance in the local market but also for their investment returns as well," he stressed.

He said the SSS and GSIS should instead "champion the cause of good corporate governance."

"Had such a policy been practiced, the SSS and GSIS could have avoided the monumental losses they now sit on when their previous administrators gleefully acquiesced to deals brokered by our former political leaders," said Del Rosario.

Del Rosario's statements came following admissions by former heads of the SSS and GSIS that they were forced to enter into deals that benefited ousted President Estrada's own interests, specifically those that jacked up the share prices of leisure and gaming firm Belle Corp.

Former SSS administrator Carlos Arellano and GSIS general manager Federico Pascual have agreed to testify against Estrada, whom the Department of Justice has accused of plunder.

"While we regret these episodes, we are encouraged that this country's current political leaders show no inclination to repeat the rapacity of the past. We also hope that the people at the helm of SSS and GSIS are made of sterner stuff than their predecessors so that if and when the pressure from above does come to bear on them, they will not buckle under pressure, or worse, even relax and partake of the spoils," Del Rosario said.

Under the Estrada administration, the SSS and GSIS were widely believed to have been used by families and friends of the ousted president to prop up the share prices of their corporations or work out takeovers from which they earned huge commissions.

Napocor to bid out contracts online

By Ronnel W. Domingo

STATE-RUN National Power Corp. is set to tap into the electronic marketplace to ensure transparency in bidding out its various supply contracts.

Napocor president Jesus Alcordo said in an interview Napocor was currently negotiating a service agreement with Bayantrade.com.

Bayantrade.com is a recently launched business-to-business e-commerce site and is a joint venture among Aboitiz Equity Ventures Inc., Ayala Corp., Benpres Holdings Corp., JG Summit Holdings Corp., Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co., and United Laboratories Inc.

"Hopefully, we can start out first bidding through the Internet this month, although we still don't know which contracts to bid out," Alcordo told reporters.

He said Napocor might start with its coal supply contracts, which had suffered failure-of-bidding delays.

Alcordo said Napocor was also planning to bid out, through Bayantrade.com, contracts for 111 delivery points for its fuel supply for the April 2001-March 2002 period.

The power firm's fuel management division earlier declared a failure of bidding for 56 delivery points since none of the six bidders vied for these.

The contracts for 45 others were put up for re-bidding since Napocor received only one bid for each delivery points.

Alcordo said Napocor's objective was to do away with traditional auction procedures and ensure transparency for Napocor's billions worth of contracts.

"Eventually, the whole procurement system of Napocor will be electronic," he said.

On the other hand, Alcordo expressed caution against possible collusion among bidders.

"There will be no traders (involved in the bidding) because they represent so many producers. We prefer (to deal directly with) the producers," he said.

Moreover, he said only bids and not the names of the bidders would appear on the computer monitor during the bidding.

The bidding supply contracts in Bayantrade.com is done through a reverse auction where the lowest and not the highest price is demanded.

An example is Manila Electric Co.'s experience when it bid out its copper wire requirements to six prequalified companies. Setting the ceiling price at P13.8 million, the winning bid was P12 million, resulting in savings of P1.8 million for Meralco.

Alcordo said Napocor would not be spending for Bayantrade.com's e-commerce services since the fees would be charged to the participating bidders.

BUCKING EASY-MONEY TREND

Zonito's goes organic for health's sake

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

SUCCESS STORY

JUST like any other Filipino, Zonito Torrevillas enjoys eating chickens. Her appetite for chickens, though, once waned when the organic chickens she used to feast on when she was younger were replaced with white chickens fattened in poultry farms. She was reluctant to eat because she knew that most chickens raised in commercial farms were fed with fish or bone meal and injected with antibiotics and other kinds of medicine and vitamins. This is one reason, she says, why many people have allergic reactions to chickens. It is not the chicken, but the antibiotics and medicine still in the animal's system when it is cooked and eaten.

Torrevillas believed there was a market for people like her who were hankering for the taste of organic chickens. So with an initial capital of P115,000 from her Christmas bonus and salary loans, she set up her own organic chicken farm in Dasmariñas, Cavite.

Torrevillas teamed up with a widow, Becky, who had a property big enough to house a poultry farm. Torrevillas took care of the construction materials while Becky provided the chickens.

Out of an initial batch of 1,000 chicks, Becky harvested 985 chickens. The profit was split 50-50 and the money was used to purchase more chicks for the next batch of organic chickens.

"I have always dreamed of going into organic native chicken and farming. I also want to help people earn extra money. I sold the first batch of the chickens to friends and relatives. It was difficult at the start, but once people got the taste of the chicken, they would ask for more," Torrevillas recalls.

Organic vs hybrid

Organic chickens are different from white chickens available in the market because they are not kept in cages. Instead, they are free to roam around a large fenced area.

Organic chickens do not feed on recycled fish and meat, which are unfit for human consumption, and are not injected with growth hormones.

Torrevillas says her chickens regularly get a dose of Mozart and other classical tunes just to keep them relaxed and healthy.

"The only time they get medication is when they are sick. A simple cold is treated with hot *labuyo* mixed with water," she says.

Torrevillas said it was a challenge to sell her organic chickens at the same prices as chickens available in the market. Organic chickens take 75 days to grow to their full size; hybrids can be sold in only 45 days.

Because they believed in what they were doing, Torrevillas and her partners were willing to limit their profit margins to give way to educating the public on the benefits of eating organic chickens.

Makati outlet

"What we emphasize is that organic chicken is raised according to the basic precepts of organic agriculture, which is being followed now in Europe and the US, but not yet here. These precepts follow a set of principles that encourage stewardship of the earth's resources," she said.

To push the sale of organic chickens in Metro Manila, Torrevillas put up an outlet at the corner of J.P. Rizal and Calasanz streets in Makati similar to most "lechon manok" stores. The difference, however, is that Zonito's chickens are roasted in a rotisserie for a slow and even cooking that keeps all the juices in.

ZONITO Torrevillas (center) in front of her first outlet in Makati.

She and her partners named the outlet "Zonito's" because it was a unique name. The dominant colors were red and yellow as these were considered the success colors of fast-food chains.

A whole chicken at Zonito's sells for P175, P90 for half-a-chicken and P45 for a value meal that consists of a quarter of a chicken, rice and achara made from organic coconut vinegar.

"We have differenpt kinds of achara—ampalaya, cucumber, radish and eggplant, depending on what is abundant in the market. The achara supports the livelihood of Aling Inciang, who recently lost her husband and was left to take care of eight children," Torrevillas said.

Torrevillas said it was difficult to combine her organic chicken business with her full-time work as vice president of multinational public relations firm Fleishman-Hillard but she finds fulfillment in both.

Urbancorp debt relief extended

By Elena R. Torrijos

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission has extended by another 60 days its order granting debt relief to Urbancorp Investments Inc.

The commission's decision will allow majority stockholders of Urban Bank Inc., which owns 40 percent of Urbancorp, to prepare and submit a plan to rehabilitate both the commercial bank and the investment house.

In a letter to Urbancorp interim receiver Corazon de la Paz early this month, Urbancorp acting chair Noel Laman disclosed that stockholders of more than half of Urban Bank would submit a rehabilitation plan for the bank and Urbancorp by March 16, the deadline set by state-owned Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp., Urban Bank's receiver.

The initiative of Urban Bank's majority stockholders was in cooperation with the Social Security System and San Miguel Corp.'s retirement and death benefit plan.

PDIC said it would be constrained to liquidate Urban Bank unless it received good offers for the bank by March 16.

Bank of Commerce earlier offered itself as a "white knight" for Urban Bank and Urbancorp but decided last month to withdraw its proposal given issues concerning the legality of the closure of Urban Bank.

Laman asked De la Paz to request the SEC for an extension of Urbancorp's debt relief to give its stockholders more time to prepare a rehabilitation plan. This was done by the interim receiver on Tuesday.

In its order extending Urbancorp's debt relief by another 60 days, the SEC hearing panel for Urbancorp also noted that there were several other entities seriously interested in rehabilitating Urban Bank and Urbancorp.

Urbancorp has about P5.83 billion in liabilities.

SEC prepares exemptions to SRC

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission is drawing up guidelines to allow exemptions to some provisions of the Securities Regulation Code, including the broker-director rule.

About five member-brokers of the Philippine Stock Exchange, including the stockbrokerage of PSE chair Felipe Yap, has asked the SEC to exempt them from the broker-director rule of the Securities Regulation Code.

Apart from being a broker, Yap is also a director and officer of several listed issues.

Under Section 30.1 of the Securities Regulation Code, "no broker or dealer can deal in or otherwise trade for its own account or the account of its customers' listed securities wherein any stockholder, director or associated person of the broker or dealer and any relative within the fourth degree of consanguinity or affinity was, at the same time, a director, officer or holding any position of trust and responsibility of the listed company."

The Securities Regulation Code, however, provides procedures for the filing of applications for exemptions to its provisions.

The applications for exemption must be in writing and must indicate specific requirements from which relief is being sought. It must also state legal bases for the relief sought.

The applicant must also identify the anticipated benefits for investors and any conditions or limitations the applicant believes will be appropriate for the protection of investors.

The applicant is also supposed to cite and discuss applicable precedents and include any supporting documents.

Separately, the SEC has also approved forms requiring brokers and dealers to swear under oath information relating to the broker-director rule.

The forms are expected to allow the SEC to better monitor affiliate transactions or violations of the broker-director rule.

DISCLOSURES

JOLLIBEE Foods Corp. has confirmed reports that it is currently holding discussions with **Delifrance Asia Ltd.**, but clarifies that it has yet to finalize agreements that merit disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange.

* * *

BAYAN Telecommunications Inc. is currently having discussions with its creditors on a standstill agreement, the objective of which is to implement an orderly restructuring of its debts.

* * *

MABUHAY Vinyl Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on March 30, 3 p.m., at the Mondragon Ballroom, Mondragon House, Makati.

* * *

GLOBE Telecom Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on April 2, 2 p.m., at the Rigodon Ballroom, Hotel Peninsula Manila, Makati City.

* * *

DUE to the submission of its annual report using SEC Form 11-A, the suspension on the trading of the shares of **Philippine National Construction Corp.** was lifted on March 8.

* * *

THE BOARD of **China Banking Corp.** has rescheduled its annual stockholders' meeting to May 24, 4 p.m. It will be held at the China Banking Corp. Bldg., Makati.

* * *

LIBERTY Telecom Holdings Inc. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on May 22 at a suitable time and place to be determined by its president. ***Compiled by Armin P. Adina, PDI Research***

Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Thursday, March 8, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	1,000
Banco Filipino Sav & Mort	105	105	105	105	100
Bank of the Phil. Islands	69.5	70	69.5	70	163,700
Chinatrust Comm. Bank	18	18	18	18	1,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	53	53	53	53	26,500
First E-Bank Corp.	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	6,000
Global Business Bank Inc.	66	66	66	66	100
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	228	231	227	230	80,830
Prudential Bank	500	500	500	500	10,000
Philippine National Bank	50.5	51.5	49	50.5	501,100
Phil. Savings Bank	29	30	29	30	22,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	26	26	26	26	5,900
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.58	1.58	1.58	1.58	136,000
Filipino Fund Inc.	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.39	10,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	250	250	250	250	500
Manulife Financial Corp.	1270	1280	1270	1280	3,530
Sun Life Financial Serv.	975	985	975	985	3,670
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	46.5	47	46.5	46.5	4,400
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.62	0.63	0.62	0.63	990,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	12,000
Piltel	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.64	250,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	805	810	790	790	51,360
Ivantage Corp.	1.04	1.04	1	1.04	150,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.0675	0.075	0.065	0.075	459,700,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	53	53	53	53	23,200
Manila Electric Co. B	62	63	62	62.5	236,300
Petron Corp.	1.88	1.88	1.88	1.88	534,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	20,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	250,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	1.26	1.26	1.24	1.26	10,113,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	2	2	2	2	52,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	60,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	11.75	12.25	11.75	12	416,900
Liberty Flour Mills Inc.	17	17	17	17	208,900
La Tondena DistillersInc	37	37	37	37	41,000
RFM Corp.	1.3	1.32	1.3	1.3	1,151,000
San Miguel Corp. A	48	48.5	48	48	10,100
San Miguel Corp. B	56	57.5	56	57	228,700
Vitarich Corp.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	100,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.7	985,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.58	1.58	1.58	1.58	780,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	12.25	12.5	12.25	12.25	3,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	1	1	0.98	0.98	30,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	200,000
APC Group Inc.	0.235	0.235	0.235	0.235	930,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	4,000,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.75	500
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.24	0.25	0.23	0.23	60,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	906,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	30,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	230,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.4	1.4	1.36	1.36	130,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	23.75	23.75	23.5	23.5	55,700
Global Equities Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.32	950,000
Guoco Holdings (Phils.)	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	200,000
Ionics Inc.	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	25,000
Ipeople Inc.	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	60,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	3,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.9	0.9	0.89	0.9	500,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.59	0.6	0.58	0.58	4,030,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.73	0.73	0.71	0.71	260,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.36	0.37	0.36	0.36	1,300,000
Wellex Industries Inc.	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.49	10,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.3	0.31	0.3	0.31	1,200,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Active Alliance Inc.	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73	10,000
A Brown Company Inc.	0.6	0.6	0.55	0.55	120,000
Corro-Coat Inc.	1.42	1.42	1.42	1.42	75,000
Matsushita Elec Phil Corp	5	5	5	5	5,000
Music Corporation	2.95	2.95	2.95	2.95	101,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	50,000
Central Azucar Don Pedro	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91	140,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	12.5	13	12.5	12.75	1,443,300
Steniel Manufacturing	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.56	10,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.58	0.6	0.58	0.59	1,150,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.71	0.72	0.69	0.71	18,090,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.68	0.68	0.67	0.67	150,000
Manila Jockey Club	18	18.5	18	18.5	6,100
Philippine Racing Club	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	24,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp (Pdr)	47	47	46.5	46.5	126,000
Equitable PCI Bank-War	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	2,000
Globe Telecom Hldg (Pdr)	730	730	725	725	1,040
Jollibee Warrants	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	10,000
PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,200
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,600
PLDT (10% Pref) Series X	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,600
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.4	3,496,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.41	50,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.32	240,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	160,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.41	1,800,000
Edsa Prop. Holdings Inc.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.8	2.8	2.75	2.75	2,269,000
SM Development Corp.	0.96	0.96	0.96	0.96	200,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7	7	6.9	6.9	3,084,000
Universal Rightfield Prop	0.115	0.115	0.11	0.11	4,680,000
MINING					
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	50,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	1,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	3,000,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	65,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0044	0.0044	0.0042	0.0042	96,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	150,000
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	200,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.029	0.029	0.029	0.029	2,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	23,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	300,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	20,000

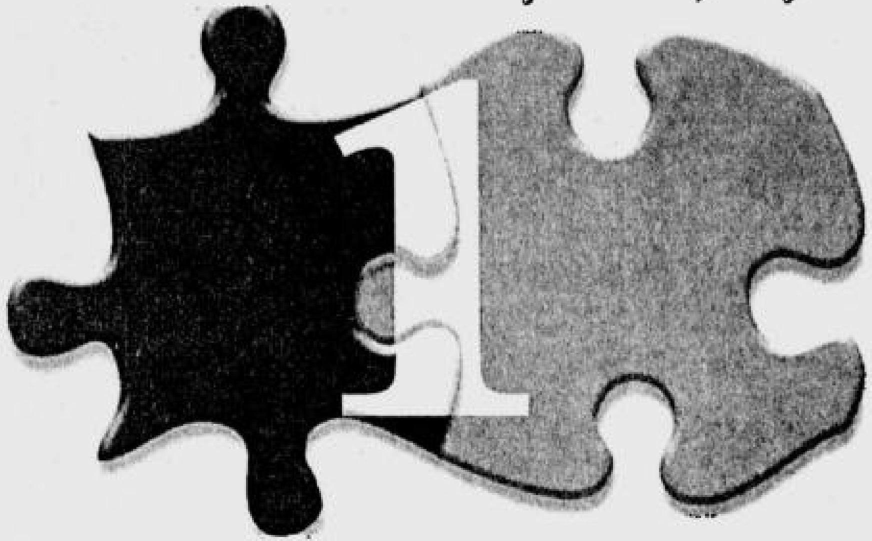
CURRENCIES

March 8, 2001

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.075616	1.000000	47.7990
Japan	Yen	0.008965	0.008335	0.3984
United Kingdom	Pound	1.571367	1.460900	69.8296
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.137903	0.128208	6.1282
Switzerland	Franc	0.649291	0.603646	28.8537
Canada	Dollar	0.694259	0.645453	30.8520
Singapore	Dollar	0.611666	0.568666	27.1817
Australia	Dollar	0.548336	0.509788	24.3674
Bahrain	Dinar	2.853244	2.652661	126.7945
Kuwait	Dinar	N/A	N/A	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.286800	0.266638	12.7450
Brunei	Dollar	0.610798	0.567859	27.1431
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000109	0.000101	0.0048
Thailand	Baht	0.024653	0.022920	1.0956
UAE	Dirham	0.292860	0.272272	13.0143
Korea	Won	0.000851	0.000791	0.0378
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.929700	44.4387
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.475348	22.7212
France	Franc	0.152450	0.141732	6.7746
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453780	0.421879	20.1654
Austria	Schilling	0.072673	0.067564	3.2295
Belgium	Franc	0.024790	0.023047	1.1016
Italy	Lire	0.000516	0.000480	0.0229
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.156364	7.4740
Portugal	Escudo	0.004988	0.004637	0.2216
Spain	Peseta	0.006011	0.005588	0.2671
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024790	0.023047	1.1016
Ireland	Punt	1.269738	1.180475	56.4255

PHILAM LIFE

2001 National Recognition Program



one company ◆ one family ◆ one destiny

United in their pursuit of excellence this outstanding league of triumphant performers combined with exceptional achievements band together as ONE Company in their vision to become ONE Family. . . striving to reach ONE Destiny of maintaining LEADERSHIP in the Life Insurance industry

Another year has passed again for all of us. It was a difficult year indeed, but the outstanding men and women of Philamlife proved once again with their sheer determination; perseverance and patience that they can hurdle the crisis and challenges that has hit the country for the last years. They were able to bring Philamlife in to the Philippine homes to help Filipino families fulfill their dreams and enhance human life and dignity.

Congratulations to all of you, and may you continue together with Philamlife to be harbingers of a promise of a better life for the Filipinos and for the nation.

EDUARDO T MALINIS
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

I would like to extend my congratulations to those of you who are being honored in this year's National Recognition Program. This momentous occasion is a testament to the hard work, dedication and skill that distinguish you as NO. 1 in Philamlife's roster of agents and agency leaders.

The Philamlife agency force is a source of constant pride. The company's strength and leadership in the Philippine life insurance industry is due in large part to the efforts of these dynamic men and women and their sincere desire to serve the Filipino people build better lives. Those we pay tribute in this affair exemplify this high Philamlife standard.

AIG and Philamlife have been partners with the people of the Philippines for a very long time. For over five decades now, Philamlife's reputation for providing innovative products and services that meet the needs of the Filipino market is unsurpassed. Today, the Philamlife agency force is at the heart and soul of this organization. Through the agency force, we provide a broader range of services to meet the financial needs of individuals and families throughout the country. This, combined with a long tradition of helping to improve the socioeconomic condition of local Filipino communities in which we operate, has long set us apart from the rest in the industry and is at the foundation of our commitment to the Philippines and its future.

Once again, I would like to thank and congratulate the Philamlife agents and agency leaders for their outstanding achievements and wish everyone continued prosperity and success.

MAURICE R. GREENBERG
Chairman and Chief Executive Office
American International Group, Inc. (AIG)
Chairman of the Board
Philippine American Life and General Insurance Company

This year's theme for the National Recognition Program is "ONE   One Company ... One Family ... One Destiny!" Our theme could not have come at a better time considering the more recent events in our nation's history where the Filipino people were ONE in their quest and clamor for justice and truth to prevail.

The year 2000 was a truly trying period for our country. Needless to say, we had our own share of difficulties, but we managed to thrive despite the odds. This was possible because the agency force was One in its quest for glory and triumph for Philamlife. Like People Power II, the Philamlife Agency Force, led by this year's Awardees, have endeavored incessantly to lift the company past the challenges of 2000.

Because of your efforts, Philamlife remains to be the number 1 life insurance company in the country.

In 2001, we will be faced with more formidable tasks. It is, therefore, incumbent upon you, as awardees, to once again rise to the challenge and inspire you colleagues to do even better this year so that they too may reap the rewards of their career as you have this year. Do not, however, forget that you owe your success to your policyholders who have given their trust and confidence to you as agents of the company and, of course, to the Almighty who has showered His abundant Blessings upon all of us!

As One Company and as One Family, I am confident we will again succeed.

JOSE L. CUISIA, JR.
President and CEO

Tough times never last; tough people do. This could very well be the motto of this year's qualifiers to our national recognition ceremonies. The year 2000 ended successfully for Philamlife with a first year premium income growth of close to 16%. This was largely due to the effort of a dedicated, loyal, and diligent agency force who in a very dramatic fashion bucked all the odds brought about by last year's economic and socio-political uncertainties. It is with admiration and pride that I congratulate this year's awardees who were at the forefront of the over-all sales effort.

We started last year with a single digit growth rate in the first quarter prompting us to work even much harder. We also prayed hard for inspiration and guidance especially on handing problems that seem to be insurmountable. We launched that National Producers' Congress drive in March that culminated in July. The support and participation of the agency force was overwhelming. The peak performers delivered an unprecedented sales record in August with a whooping 89% growth rate in new premiums. This was enough to cushion the impact of the unfolding political events during the last quarter of 2000. Indeed, tough times never last; tough people do.

This year's ceremonies will be special to celebrate last year's victories. After numerous focused group discussions conducted with various agencies, management decided to introduce changes in the awarding ceremonies. We are introducing a new format within a three day/two night program of learning, fun and recognition. There will be more fellowship and interaction to ensure that participants grow richer and find more fulfilment in belonging to one Philamlife family.

As we celebrate, let us not forget to thank the Almighty for all the blessing that He showered us during difficult and easy times. Let us also thank the Philamlife employee force for being equally dedicated to the vision of maintaining the company's market leadership. Let us thank management for all the support. Let us thank our families for keeping faith in our abilities and commitments. These are the reasons why we last the tough times.

Mabuhay ang Philamlife! Mabuhay tayong lahat.

JOSEFINO R. STO. DOMINGO, FLMI, LLIF
EVP & CHIEF AGENCY OFFICER

ASSOCIATES OF THE Year

Philamlife proudly hails its three most outstanding associates for 2000.

They led the entire agency force with their inspiring and unmatched sales performance thereby standing TALLEST among all their peers. They are prime examples of success and achievement.

ROSARIO C. SALIENTES, MDRT, TOT
NUMBER 1 CAREER AGENT
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO
NUMBER 1 UNIT MANAGER
Antonio Associates

JOSE ISAGANI F. ANTONIO
NUMBER 1 AGENCY MANAGER
Antonio Associates

AGENTS WHO SATISFIED THE PRODUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 2001 MDRT

ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
Life and Qualifying Member 7x Top of Table

The Million Dollar Round Table, founded in 1927, is a forum designed to foster the highest standards of professional approach to selling life insurance and servicing policyholders.

These are the men and women who have a personal commitment . . . a dedication to excellence.

Without a doubt, the MDRT shines out as the most prestigious association of life insurance professionals worldwide.

CORAZON K. ANG
Life and Qualifying Member

RODOLFO M. MALLARI
Life and Qualifying Member

JACINTA Y. PHOA
Life and Qualifying Member

JEANETTE L. MENDOZA
2000 Qualifying Member

YOLANDA A. MORTEL
1996 Qualifying Member

MA. ELENA G. ASTURIAS
2000 Qualifying Member

VALERIE U. WONG DE LEON
1999 Qualifying Member

TERESITA R. CABARRUBIA
2000 Qualifying Member

SHIRLEY L. CO
2000 Qualifying Member

LUCILA H. KIERLUF
2000 Qualifying Member

TERESITA G. MONTEVERDE, LUTCF
2000 Qualifying Member

ANTONINA S. SOLOMON
1994 Qualifying Member

LETICIA G. O. ANG
2000 Qualifying Member

LOURDES E. BERNARDO
2000 Qualifying Member

JUNNETTE L. LADRIDO LUTCF
2000 Qualifying Member

ZENAIDA A. PALMES
2000 Qualifying Member

NILDA C. UY
2000 Qualifying Member

FLORENTINA M. ARDIDON
1994 Qualifying Member

ANUNCIACION C. BIROG
2000 Qualifying Member

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
2000 Qualifying Member

ELISA M. DOLOR
2000 Qualifying Member

ANNA JOSEFINA L. GUINA
2000 Qualifying Member *

NELIA L. LAUDICO
2000 Qualifying Member

ELMER LIM
1996 Qualifying Member

MA. THERESA E. LUCILA
1995 Qualifying Member

BENITO D. MACANDILI
1996 Qualifying Member

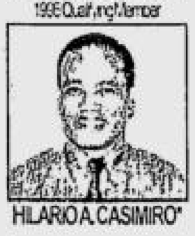
LUCILA R. OCAMPO
2000 Qualifying Member

MA. THERESA L. SOLON
1995 Qualifying Member

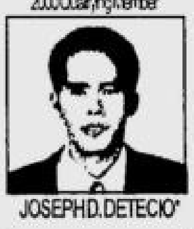
CRISPINA M. VILLANUEVA
2000 Qualifying Member

JENNIFER C. ANG*

PERLITA O. CAHAPAY*



HILARIO A. CASIMIRO*



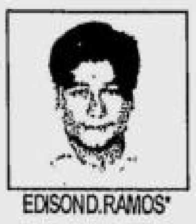
JOSEPH D. DETECIO*

DINAH R. DUMAYAS*

LOURDES V. GLORIA LUTCF*

EUSEBIA M. MAGSINO*

MA. EDITHA S. PENAFLOR*



EDISON D. RAMOS*

PETRONILA B. SADARAN*

VIVIENE L. SOLON*

ADRIANA C. TAN*

PERLA C. URTULA*

* Candidate for 2001 Qualifying Member

Arranged according to number of years as Qualifying Member of the MDRT

Special Achievement AWARDS

Career Agent Category

Philamlife's Top Career Agents who achieved the honor and distinction of being the Company's most productive career agents for Recognition Year 2000.

They stand out among a field force of more than 5,000 career agents nationwide.

NATIONAL TOP CAREER AGENT

ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MANILA AGENCIES

ANNA JOSEFINA L. GUINA
TOP MANILA
Gotuaco-Del Rosario Associates

NELIA L. LAUDICO
1st RUNNER-UP MANILA
Del Mundo Associates

PROVINCIAL AGENCIES

RODOLFO M. MALLARI
TOP PROVINCIAL
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

OSCAR E. TIANGCO
1st RUNNER-UP PROVINCIAL
Bataan-Maturino Agency

Unit Manager Category

Philamlife's Top Unit Managers who achieved the honor and distinction of being the Company's most productive unit managers for Recognition Year 2000.

NATIONAL TOP UNIT MANAGER

MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

MANILA AGENCIES

CORAZON K. ANG
TOP MANILA
Tan Associates

TERESITA G. MONTEVERDE, LUTCF
1st RUNNER-UP MANILA
Tan Associates

PROVINCIAL AGENCIES

FELIZA B. ASERON
TOP PROVINCIAL
Batangas-Malgalig Agency

LEONILA C. UY
1st RUNNER-UP PROVINCIAL
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

Agency Manager Category

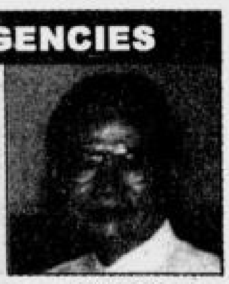
Philamlife's Top Agency Managers who achieved the honor and distinction of being the Company's most productive agency managers for Recognition Year 2000.

NATIONAL TOP AGENCY MANAGER

JOSE ISAGANI F. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

MANILA AGENCIES

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
TOP MANILA
Del Mundo Associates


JUANA TAN
1st RUNNER-UP MANILA
Tan Associates

PROVINCIAL AGENCIES

PRISCILO E. COMIA
TOP PROVINCIAL
Batangas-Comia Agency

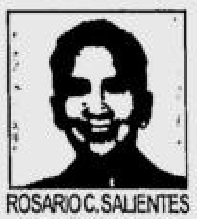
SERAPIO G. MAUNAHAN
1st RUNNER-UP PROVINCIAL
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

PHILAM LIFE

PHILAM LIFE FOUNDER'S CIRCLE

A five-time member of the Chairman's Board earns the rank and privilege to be elevated to Philamlife's highest honor club.

This club extols the memory of Philamlife's Founder and First President, Earl Caroll. These are the true professionals who represent excellence and commitment.


ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

CORAZON K. ANG
Tan Associates

SHIRLEY L. CO
Tan Associates

RODOLFO M. MALLARI
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

LUCILA H. KIERULF
Del Mundo Associates

YOLANDA A. MORTEL
Mortel Associates

JEANETTE L. MENDOZA
Antonio Associates

CHAN SIU ENG
Tan Associates

NG CHO LIAN
Tan Associates

MA. ELENA G. ASTURIAS
Del Mundo Associates

EVANGELINE S. AUSTRIA
Mortel Associates

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
Del Mundo Associates

JACINTA Y. PHOA
Tan Associates

GUEI TAY GI
Tan Associates

NILDA C. UY
Del Mundo Associates

VENECIA C. LIM
Tan Associates

SALUD P. CAPILI
Zamorano Associates

IMELDA M. OPPUS
Nicdao Associates

PHILAM LIFE CHAIRMAN'S BOARD

This exclusive honor club, dedicated to Philamlife's Chairman, Maurice R. Greenberg, belongs to the top 15% of Philamlife's outstanding Career Agents.

They are the true pacesetters of the agency force who exemplify growth and strength, characteristics of intensely dedicated men and women.

ANNA JOSEFINA L. GUINA
Gotuaco-Del Rosario Associates

TERESITA G. MONTEVERDE, LUTCF
Tan Associates

NELIA L. LAUDICO
Del Mundo Associates

ANUNCIACION C. BIROG
Del Mundo Associates

MA. THERESA E. LUCILA
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

ANTONINA S. SOLOMON
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

OSCAR E. TIANGCO
Bataan-Maturino Agency

YOLANDA C. CRISPINO
Davao-Mateus Agency

BENITO D. MACANDILI
Metro Manila East Direct

LETICIA G. O. ANG
Tan Associates

LOURDES E. BERNARDO
Antonio Associates

MA. VICTORIA F. LIWAG
Mortel Associates

EDISON D. RAMOS
Pampanga-Aquino Agency

ESTELITA M. VIRTUDAZO
Davao-Mateus Agency

GLICERIA D. DE LEON
Antonio Associates

JUNNETTE L. LADRIDO, LUTCF
Mortel Associates

PERLA C. URTULA
Sumabat Associates

ELISA M. DOLOR
Batangas-Comia Agency

MA. THERESA L. SOLON
Del Mundo Associates

CRISPINA M. VILLANUEVA
Batangas-Comia Agency

DEANNA C. APOSTOL
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

LOLITA N. OBNAMIA
Tan Associates

RAMON M. CRUZ
Mendoza Associates

MA. EDITHA S. PEÑAFLOR
Antonio Associates

LOURDES V. GLORIA, LUTCF
A. Bautista Associates

BARTOLOME R. CRUZ
Pagaduan Associates

LUCILA R. OCAMPO
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

VALERIE U. WONG DE LEON
Tan Associates

ZENAIDA A. PALMES
Del Mundo Associates

METHODIO V. MAGNAYE
Capule Associates

EVELYN RAMIREZ
Batangas-Malgalig Agency

PETRONILA B. SADARAN
Uson Associates

FERNANDO F. PALCON
Zamorano Associates

PHILAM LIFE FOUNDER'S CABINET

A five-time member of the President's Cabinet earns the rank and privilege to be elevated to Philamlife's highest award for Agency Leaders.

This club honors the memory of Philamlife's Founder and First President, Earl Caroll.

They are the stewards of excellence and the epitome of commitment to agency building.

AGENCY CATEGORY

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
Del Mundo Associates

JUANA TAN
Tan Associates

REYNALDO N. MORTEL
Mortel Associates

ENRICO A. CAPULE
Capule Associates

VERONICA S. GONZALEZ
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

ANTONIA LUCRECIA G. NICDAO
Nicdao Associates

MANUEL Y. USON
Uson Associates

PROCESO G. MENDOZA
Mendoza Associates

DOMINGO B. BONGALA
Bongala Associates

FLORANTE R. PINEDA
Tarlac-Pineda Agency

ANTONINA A. DEL ROSARIO
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

AURORA M. MATURINO
Bataan-Maturino Agency

NANCY R. BAUTISTA
Espiritu Associates

HENRY M. ESPIRITU
Espiritu Associates

PRISCILO E. COMIA
Batangas-Comia Agency

SERAPIO G. MAUNAHAN
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

JOHN P. MATA, JR.
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

PHILAM LIFE

PHILAM LIFE FOUNDER'S CABINET

DIRECT UNIT CATEGORY

VERONICA S. GONZALEZ
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
Del Mundo Associates

CRISA G. NICDAO
Nicdao Associates

REYNALDO N. MORTEL
Mortel Associates

MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

JOSE ISAGANI F. ANTONIO
Antonio Associates

CORAZON K. ANG
Tan Associates

SEGUNDINA O. TAN
Tan Associates

PRISCILO E. COMIA
Batangas-Comia Agency

MANUEL Y. USON
Uson Associates

FRANCISCO M. FLORES
La Trinidad-Flores Agency

MELBA L. TAN
Cebu-Tan Agency

LEONILA A. BRITANIA
Bongaa Associates

GINA Z. MENDOZA
Mendoza Associates

ESTRELLA P. ALTAREJOS
Camarines-Altarejos Agency

ROBERTO E. MENDOZA
Antonio Associates

LEONILA C. UY
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

NELIA M. ZABALERIO
Zabalerio Associates

JOSE J. MENDOZA
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

ROMEO M. RAMOS
Zambrano Associates

AURORA M. MATURINO
Bataan-Maturino Agency

ROQUE T. TAN
R. Tan Associates

LEAH E. PONIO
L. E. Ponio Associates

CARLOS C. VENERACION
Pagaduan Associates

ROSA P. MENDOZA
Surigao-Mendoza Agency

JOSEFINA S. HIPOL
Bagui Associates

ANATALIA W. BRIONES
Bagui Associates

JOSE P. MALIGALIG
Batangas-Maligalig Agency

FERNANDO A. COSTES, JR
North Luzon-Costes Agency

LEORANDO G. CUNANAN
Batangas-Cunanan Agency

LIM SU CHAN
Tan Associates

SOLEDAD J. HERRERA
Herrera Associates

PABLO O. TAMALA, JR
Pagadian-Tamala Agency

NORMA C. MAGPANTAY
Del Mundo Associates

EVELYN T. TUASON
Del Mundo Associates

BASILISA B. MONTOYA
Nicdao Associates

ROGELIO L. CRISOSTOMO
Antonio Associates

NILDA C. UY
Del Mundo Associates

ADELAIDA C. HERNANDEZ
Antonio Associates

ISABELA P. CARREON
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MODESTO T. MEDRANO
Cavite-Medrano Agency

LEONIDA D. ROQUE
L. Roque Associates

BEVERLY Y. NG
Tan Associates

SALVADOR C. CABAEL
Capule Associates

AURORA A. ROMERO
Metro Manila Central Direct

LETICIA E. SANTOS
Espiritu Associates

CECILIA R. CABITAC
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

DANTE E. ACEVEDA
Aceveda Associates

JAMES WALTER P. CAPILI
Zambrano Associates

LAMBERTO R. AUSTRIA
Mortel Associates

MA. VIOLETA S. MAGNAYE
Capule Associates

LAMBERTO A. SALAMATIN
Capule Associates

ANTONINA A. DEL ROSARIO
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

LUCILA H. KIERULF
Del Mundo Associates

ROBERTO A. BERNARDO
Antonio Associates

FLORANTE R. PINEDA
Tarlac-Pineda Agency

FLORENTINA M. ARDIDON
Bagui Associates

SERAPIO G. MAUNAHAN
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

JOSE M. BUTALON
Metro Manila East Direct

MILTON Y. TAN
Tan Associates

EDNA S. SORITA
Mortel Associates

DELSIFE O. CIRIACO
Laguna-Falague Agency

* * *

the PRESIDENT'S CABINET

AGENCY CATEGORY

As Agency Managers who exhibited commendable production performance for Recognition Year 2000, they are a testimony to Philamlife's strength and leadership in the industry.

RUBEN E. FALAGUE
Laguna-Falague Agency

PATRICIA E. BAGUI
Bagui Associates

LEORANDO G. CUNANAN
Batangas-Cunanan Agency

MELBA L. TAN
Cebu-Tan Agency

ANTONIO R. VARIAS
Cavite-Varias Agency

ALFONSO O. JEREZ
Cotabato-Jerez Agency

JOSEPH B. RULLA
Baguio-Rulla Agency

YOLANDA M. L. ALTAVAS
Panay-Altavas Agency

CECILIA A. MELENDRES
Melendres Associates

SOLEDAD J. HERRERA
Herrera Associates

ESTRELLA P. ALTAREJOS
Camarines-Altarejos Agency

JOSE P. MALIGALIG
Batangas-Maligalig Agency

ZOILO S. ZAMBRANO
Zambrano Associates

EPIMACO F. BARUC
Cebu-Baruc Agency

FERNANDO A. COSTES, JR
North Luzon-Costes Agency

BENJAMIN M. MATEUS, JR
Davao-Mateus Agency

FRANCISCO M. FLORES
La Trinidad-Flores Agency

MODESTO T. MEDRANO
Cavite-Medrano Agency

ROSA P. PAGADUAN
Pagaduan Associates

ROGER S. DY
Dy Associates

the PRESIDENT'S CABINET

DIRECT UNIT CATEGORY

In the tradition of excellence, these Agency Leaders have distinguished themselves with exceptional First Year Commission Income for Recognition Year 2000.

TERESITA G. MONTEVERDE, LUTCF
Tan Associates

ALFONSO O. JEREZ
Cotabato-Jerez Agency

CAYETANO L. GUINA
Gotuaco-Del Rosario Associates

FELIZA B. ASERON
Batangas-Maligalig Agency

RODOLFO A. MANGALIAG
Mangaliag Associates

NELIA L. LAUDICO
Del Mundo Associates

NARCISO M. SOLON
Del Mundo Associates

J. ROSEMELIA B. GILO
R. Gilo Associates

FIDEL A. DEMOT
Baguio-Rulla Agency

FELICISIMO G. CLET
Batangas-Comia Agency

ERWIN J. M. Y. SAPLALA
Dy Associates

CECILIA A. MELENDRES
Melendres Associates

ORLANDO T. ABANTO
Antonio Associates

ANTONIO S. LAPADA
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

ISABEL C. TRANGIA
Batangas-Comia Agency

EMERITA P. CARAO
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

CARINA G. LU
Tan Associates

NILDA L. SUMABAT
Sumabat Associates

EDUARDO A. FORDAN
Antonio Associates

ADORACION P. PENALES
Cebu-Tan Agency

MAXIMO R. BELINO
Batangas-Cunanan Agency

ISMAEL L. MELENDRES, JR
Melendres Associates

CONSTANCIA S. VERGEL DE DIOS
A. Bautista Associates

JUNNETTE L. LADRIDO LUTCF
Monte Associates

FLORENTINO I. DE LEON, JR
Rizal-De Leon Agency

APOLINARIO A. HEMBRADOR
Hembrador Associates

CLEOTILDE O. HEMBRADOR
Hembrador Associates

BEATRIZ V. PASTORIN
Cotabato-Jerez Agency

ESPERANZA T. BUENCONSEJO
Iloilo-Buenconsejo Agency

EPIMACO F. BARUC
Cebu-Baruc Agency

HERMINGILDA V. ALCALEN
Herrera Associates

EMELITA C. CUNDANGAN
Bulacan-Fernando Agency

ROLANDO V. VILLANUEVA
Nueva-Reyes Agency

EDEN C. BUCCAT
Dy Associates

JESUS G. ESMA, JR
Cebu-Tan Agency

FE S. DE DIOS
Del Mundo Associates

JUVILO T. NAPAO
Negros Oriental-Napao Agency

MORITO C. PARCON
Tacurong-Parcon Agency

NANCY R. BAUTISTA
Espiritu Associates

HENRY M. ESPIRITU
Espiritu Associates

ANTONIO R. VARIAS
Cavite-Varias Agency

BEATRIZ F. ALCAIN
Ilocos-Abra Agency

VIRGILIO M. ANDAL
Batangas-Comia Agency

FELICISIMO N. GERONIMO, JR
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

SIGRID GRACE B. ACUIN
Espiritu Associates

RENATO D. PEREZ
Prism Agency

YOLANDA M. L. ALTAVAS
Panay-Altavas Agency

FLORENTINA B. ANCHETA
Cagayan-Kalinga Apayao-Ancheta Agency

MANUELITA L. DORONILA
Panay-Altavas Agency

NAZARENA N. OPLAS
Davao-Mateus Agency

ENRICO CAPULE
Capule Associates

PHILAM LIFE

PHILAM LIFE
PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

In the tradition of excellence, these Career Agents have distinguished themselves with exceptional First Year Commission Income for Recognition Year 2000.

ELIZABETH B. JARDELEZA
Iloilo-Buenconsejo Agency

PERLITA O. CAHAPAY
Bagui Associates

EVANGELINE F. ILAG
Batangas-Malgalig Agency

ADRIANA C. TAN
R. Tan Associates

LETY L. MANGALIAG
Mangaliag Associates

EUSEBIA M. MAGSINO
Batangas-Coma Agency

NANCY R. BAUTISTA
Espiritu Associates

SALLY N. KO
Tan Associates

ROSITA O. LI
Tan Associates

TERESITA H. SALARZON
Dy Associates

ERNESTO A. LIM
Tan Associates

MA. LETICIA G. ALLADO
Melendres Associates

ALICIA G. BENDERO
Tacurong-Parcon Agency

MA. VIVIENNE L. SOLON
DelMundo Associates

JOSEPH D. DETECIO
Mortel Associates

ISABELITA S. CASTOR
Antonio Associates

MA. CRISTINA B. MENDOZA
Antonio Associates

MARIO A. DE GUZMAN
North Luzon-Costes Agency

FRANCISCO U. CENTENO
North Luzon-Costes Agency

EDITHA CAPISTRANO
Antonio Associates

FELICIDAD B. DINLASAN
DelMundo Associates

ANGEL M. BAYLON
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

DINAH R. DUMAYAS
La Trinidad-Flores Agency

EMELITA S. ABANTO
Antonio Associates

EMMA F. ARCILLA
DelMundo Associates

JOCELYN M. CAPISTRANO
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

VALENTIN V. UY
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

DOUGLASIA R. CANUEL
DelMundo Associates

LUCITA S. YAP
Bulacan-Fernando Agency

THELMA G. SANTOS
Tarlac-Pineda Agency

AMELIA E. ATANACIO
Espiritu Associates

FATIMA R. RODRIGUEZ
Central Luzon Direct

BENJIE L. GONZALES
Mortel Associates

MARCOS V. TAN
Tan Associates

LUCILA A. BASCON
Antonio Associates

MARICAR S. MENDOZA
Bataan-Maturno Agency

FLORENTINA M. ARDIDON
Bagui Associates

LEONIDA F. PAGDONSOLAN
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

JOCELYN C. DY JUANCO
Tan Associates

ESMERALDA S. BELTRAN
Bagui Associates

OFELIA J. VILLANUEVA
Antonio Associates

THELMA P. ACUNA
South Bicol Direct

EMELITA C. LAO
Tan Associates

MA. ROSARIO R. REYES
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

NORMITA G. VENERACION
Pagaduan Associates

FERDINAND S. CRUZ
Mendoza Associates

ROSARIO P. CARAIG
Batangas-Cunanan Agency

MA. LOURDES L. RIVERA
Bagui Associates

ROLANDO E. CIRIACO
Mendoza Associates

REMIGIO G. PEREZ
Prism Agency

JASMIN V. BACAYO
Cebu-Baruc Agency

JOYCE P. GO
Cebu-Tan Agency

MA. REMEDIOS C. ACEVEDA
Aceveda Associates

PERLA O. ARGUELLES
Iloilo-Buenconsejo Agency

PRESCILLA L. RIVERO
DelMundo Associates

NEMIA M. CALINGO
Delos Santos Associates

REBECCA C. AUSTRIA
Batangas-Malgalig Agency

ANTONIA L. JARDINIANO
Cavite-Varas Agency

LUISITO S. LAUDICO
DelMundo Associates

NORA H. CRISOSTOMO
Antonio Associates

ANTONIO L. HAMAC
Cebu-Tan Agency

AURORA C. ZAGALA
R. Tan Associates

MAXIMA M. MUNOZ
Baguio-Pulia Agency

ELENA PZA CUBILLAN
Surigao-Mendoza Agency

CHERYL LOURDES N. CLETO
Nicdao Associates

PETER D. LOYOLA
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

EVANGELINA R. REYES
DelMundo Associates

TERESITA S. MANALO
Antonio Associates

SYLVIA O. GAGTO
Antonio Associates

ANDELYS M. CARILLO
Mortel Associates

BELLA M. ALVAREZ
Quezon-Malverug Agency

JOSEFINA M. BELLO
Batangas-Cunanan Agency

ELEANOR MATHEU
Cebu-Tan Agency

VIRGINIA T. EUGENIO
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

CONCEPCION C. GUEVARRA
Nueva-Reyes Agency

ALMA E. LLORENTE
DelMundo Associates

ROMEO C. ARCIAGA
Metro Manila Central Direct

ERLINDA S. REYES
Batangas-Coma Agency

CLARA D. PARAS
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

PATRICIA A. SARDALLA
L. E. Ponio Associates

BENJAMIN Y. GAN
Bongala Associates

ANATALIA B. BRANDARES
Davao-Mateus Agency

RODILYN N. FERNANDEZ
Turingan Associates

MA. LOURDES T. PANES
Panay-Atayas Agency

LEONOR P. CLARINO
Nicdao Associates

MILAGROS C. CLET
Batangas-Coma Agency

LUCILYN J. SENA
Bataan-Maturno Agency

NIEVES B. SAN PEDRO
Melendres Associates

ESTRELLITA U. TAN
Bulacan-Udarbe Agency

SUSANA A. TURINGAN
DelMundo Associates

NORMA A. DE VENECIA
DelMundo Associates

LAMBERTO D. DOMA, JR
Bongala Associates

CLAUDIA B. FUENTES
Cebu-Tan Agency

ANTONIO J. TAN
Tan Associates

JONAH FAYE S. MAGNAYE
Capule Associates

CALIXTO Y. GARCIA
Bongala Associates

ANTONIO T. SANTANA
DelMundo Associates

VICENTE C. TAGUINOD
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

JOSE M. ESGUERRA, JR
Bagui Associates

SONIA S. BRIONES
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

ESTRELLITA E. CHAN
Ilocos-Abra Agency

TERESITA C. RABENA
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

JIMMY S. GUZMAN
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

HERBERTO M. BRIONES
Bagui Associates

LEONILA T. TORRES
Capule Associates

MARILYN S. CANAR
Antonio Associates

ROBERTO M. BUSCAR
Capule Associates

PERCY M. GUZMAN
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

ADRIANA D. ABANTE
Batangas-Coma Agency

CYNTHIA F. FRANCISCO
Mendoza Associates

REMEDIOS C. DUBLADO
Mortel Associates

VIRGILIO V. HERNANDEZ
Antonio Associates

EDDIE M. MAYONA
Baguio-Pulia Agency

AMELITA M. LACSON
Uson Associates

ZENAIDA G. ILLESCAS
Bulacan-Fernando Agency

EMILY S. SUMPAY
Camarines-Altarejos Agency

VIRGINIA G. CORDERO
Surigao-Mendoza Agency

GLENN C. SALDUA
Antonio Associates

FLORA G. ARELLANO
Batangas-Coma Agency

ADELAIDA O. SAN MATEO
DelMundo Associates

ROGELIO N. PEREYRA
Bulacan-Maturno Agency

TEODORA B. AREVALO
Batangas-Cunanan Agency

AMELIA M. GONZALES
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

TERESITA B. BALLON
Camarines-Altarejos Agency

LEA N. FANDINOLA
Uson Associates

MENCHIE C. TRANGIA
Batangas-Coma Agency

MELITONA A. MATIBAG
Batangas-Coma Agency

ELENA R. KAMID
Zambrano Associates

LILIA M. AMPELOQUIO
Antonio Associates

ANA VIOLA V. LAQUIAN
DelMundo Associates

SHERWIN U. COMIA
Batangas-Coma Agency

AIDA C. MATTI
Antonio Associates

MA. FE A. RIVERA
Mortel Associates

EDEN L. JALOSJOS
DelMundo Associates

JEANETTE C. FABICO
Tan Associates

MILDRED C. SENADOS
Zamboanga-Mutia Agency

ALICIA A. CLAVERIA, LUTCF
DelMundo Associates

JANELYN Y. SY
R. Tan Associates

MINERVA R. CANOZA
Pagaduan Associates

NENITA A. ASUNCION
Batangas-Cunanan Agency

CECILIA B. TUGUINAY
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

BEVERLY A. ODVINA
Cavite-Madrano Agency

CARMEN V. SARABIA
A. Bautista Associates

MICHAEL Z. FERNANDEZ
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

THERESITA S N. PANOPIO
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MARIA JUVELYN P. POCSIDIO
Antonio Associates

REBECCA R. ABRILLA
DelMundo Associates

HELENA SALVADOR
Uson Associates

EMILIA J. MAMALA
R. Gic Associates

EVELYN A. PALARCA
Herrera Associates

GRACE T. CABOTAGE
Antonio Associates

FLORA O. CADIENTE
Bagui Associates

MARILOU A. GERONIMO
Nueva-Reyes Agency

GLORIA V. VILLANGCA
Pagaduan Associates

REGALADO M. ASERON
Batangas-Malgalig Agency

MA. AIDA RUBY G. KLEINER
Melendres Associates

ERLINDA C. FAJARDO
Nueva-Reyes Agency

EBENEZER M. UNGRIANO
Cavite-Varas Agency

MA. VICTORIA P. MERCADO
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

MILAGROS I. GATDULA
Laguna-Fatague Agency

TERESITA T. PALOR
Capule Associates

JOSEPHINE M. VIRAY
Capule Associates

ADELA A. MIRANDA
Capule Associates

IRENE B. VILLENA
Cavite-Madrano Agency

REBECCA F. BALLESTEROS
Ilocos-Abra Agency

CESAR M. ONATE
Antonio Associates

PRESCILLA ANN S. TORRES
Aceveda Associates

ASUNCION C. BRUAN
Rizal-Maunahan Agency

LEONORA D. STAPLES
Cotabato-Jerez Agency

JANETTE R. PILAPIL
Cebu-Tan Agency

EULALIA B. MAWI
Cebu-Tan Agency

FORTUNATO P. GUADEZ
Batangas-Coma Agency

ABSALON M. CALIMLIM
Mendoza Associates

MERCEDITA P. PESCANTE
Salientes-Gonzalez Associates

LEONILA F. SANTIAGO
Nueva-Reyes Agency

NARCISA D. COMAHIG
Cebu-Tan Agency

SALVACION U. GONZALES
Isabela-Nueva Vizcaya-Mata Agency

MA. CECILIA F. REGINO
Melendres Associates

EDUARDA N. OROGO
Ocampo Associates

ESTELA C. BELEN
Laguna-Fatague Agency

ELENA S. GREGORIO
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

TERESITA A. GOROSPE
Pampanga-Del Rosario Agency

DEBBIE VERDE
Cebu-Baruc Agency

EVELYN P. DE ZUNIGA
Antonio Associates

ELIZABETH R. REYES
Camarines-Altarejos Agency

TERESITA R. CABARRUBIA
Mortel Associates

MATILDE S. DIMALIWAT
Nueva-Galvez Agency

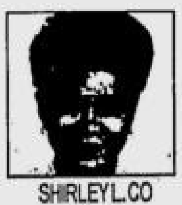
PHILAM LIFE

IQA
INTERNATIONAL QUALITY AWARD

The mark of a career underwriter is exemplified by this worldwide symbol of excellence. Membership to this club is measured by persistency — the number of clients who keep their policies in-force for many years. Persistent business is the seal of a true professional.

NG CHO LIAN
24th year

JACINTA Y. PHOA
22nd year


SHIRLEY L. CO
20th year

GUEI TAY GI
17th year

CHAN SIU ENG
15th year

CORAZON K. ANG
15th year

MA. CYNTHIA S. CAJUCOM
8th year

ESTRELLITA U. TAN
7th year

EVANGELINE S. AUSTRIA
4th year

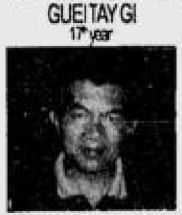
JOCELYN C. GALANG
4th year

VENECIA C. LIM
3rd year

ANATALIA B. BRANDARES
2nd year

BARTOLOME R. CAMACHO
2nd year

CELSA S. QUIAMBAO
2nd year


FLORENTINO G. AWINGAN
2nd year

JUVILO T. NAPAO
2nd year

MA. LETICIA G. ALLADO
2nd year

ROSARIO J. VALENCIA
2nd year

TERESITA H. SALARZON
2nd year

VIRGINIA E. SANTOS
2nd year

CARLITO F. BAGUI
1st year

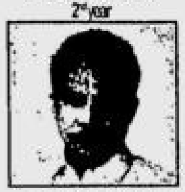
CARMELITA L. BORJE
1st year

CONSORCIA A. BALLADARES
1st year

CORAZON C. RAMOS
1st year

EVANGELINE F. ILAG
1st year

FLORA G. ARELLANO
1st year


JAIME A. GAMBOA
1st year

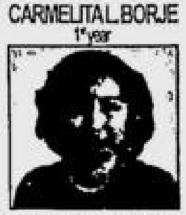
LORENZO N. SAUSA, JR
1st year

LUCILA R. OCAMPO
1st year

MA. THERESA L. SOLON
1st year

MELECIA S. GUIAD
1st year

NENITA S. SIENES
1st year


REMEDIOS S. DE LAS PENAS
1st year

ROMEO A.N. MACASAET IV
1st year

ROMEO I. DEL ROSARIO
1st year

ROSITA A. TAN
1st year

ROWENA C. DEMERIN
1st year

VICENTE C. TAGUINOD
1st year

Premier AGENTS CLUB

This elite club recognizes distinguished members for their superior performance in quality business, exceptional first year production and professional agency values.

They stand as vanguards, leading the field in exceptional professionalism — such is the hallmark of a premier agent of the premier Company.

CORAZON K. ANG
Platinum

SHIRLEY L. CO
Platinum

NELIA L. LAUDICO
Platinum

JACINTA Y. PHOA
Platinum

ANUNCIACION C. BIROG
Platinum

ANNA JOSEFINA L. GUINA
Platinum

CHAN SIU ENG
Gold

NG CHO LIAN
Gold

LETICIA G. O. ANG
Gold

EVANGELINE S. AUSTRIA
Gold

GUEI TAY GI
Gold

MA LETICIA G. ALLADO
Gold

MA ELENA G. ASTURIAS
Gold

MA EDITHA S. PENAFLOR
Gold

METHODIO V. MAGNAYE
Gold

EVANGELINE F. ILAG
Gold

ROSITA O. LI
Gold

MARIO A. DE GUZMAN
Gold

FELICIDAD B. DINLASAN
Gold

ANGEL M. BAYLON
Gold

RODOLFO M. MALLARI
Gold

MA THERESA L. SOLON
Gold

LUCILA R. OCAMPO
Gold

PETRONILA B. SADARAN
Gold

ADRIANA C. TAN
Gold

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
Gold

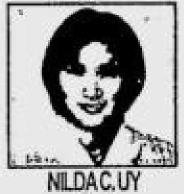
LOLITA N. OBNAMIA
Silver

LOURDES V. GLORIA, LUTCF
Silver

VENECIA C. LIM
Silver

ROMEO C. ARCIAGA
Silver

DEANNA C. APOSTOL
Silver


NILDA C. UY
Silver

NANCY R. BAUTISTA
Silver

TERESITA H. SALARZON
Silver

EMELITA S. ABANTO
Silver

MARICAR S. MENDOZA
Silver

MA LOURDES L. RIVERA
Silver

REBECCA C. AUSTRIA
Silver

CHERYL LOURDES N. CLETO
Silver

SYLVIA O. GAGTO
Silver

CLARA D. PARAS
Silver

BENJAMIN Y. GAN
Silver

CALIXTO Y. GARCIA
Silver

VICENTE C. TAGUINOD
Silver

OSCAR E. TIANGCO
Silver

LOURDES E. BERNARDO
Silver

CRISPINA M. VILLANUEVA
Silver

BARTOLOME R. CRUZ
Silver

ELIZABETH B. JARDELEZA
Silver

SALLY N. KO
Silver

BENJIE L. GONZALES
Silver

FLORENTINA M. ARDIDON
Silver

THELMA A. ACUNA
Silver

NORMITA G. VENERACION
Silver

FERDINAND S. CRUZ
Silver

PRESCILLA L. RIVERO
Silver

ELENA PZA CUBILLAN
Silver

ANDELYS M. CARILLO
Silver

BELLA M. ALVAREZ
Silver

JOSEFINA M. BELLO
Silver

PERLA O. ARGUELLES
Silver

LEONIDA D. ROQUE
Silver

MA. THERESA E. LUCILA
Silver

PATRICIA A. SARDALLA
Silver

centurion club

Career Agents who demonstrated excellent business activity in terms of insuring the most number of lives during Recognition Year 2000.

ROMEO C. ARCIAGA
FRANCIS REY C. TORRES
LUZMINDA F. CLARAVALL
AIDA C. MATTI
ERNESTO L. CABILLO
AMORSOLO B. PASCUA, JR
LUCILA R. OCAMPO
METHODIO V. MAGNAYE
ANA V. ROSAL
ZEMMA Z. VILLAREAL

EVANGELISTA L. MACANAS
MA ROSARIO R. REYES
CECILIA B. TUGUINAY
ROSARIO C. SALIENTES
JIMMY S. GUZMAN
ALEJANDRO B. ARABE
VILLAMOR B. COSTALES
CORAZON F. SAMONTE
MARICAR S. MENDOZA
TERESA D. HERNANDEZ
APOLLO B. GILO
DIANA S. MARINO
SHERRY O. HEMBRADOR
MIRIAM R. CASTILLO
LETICIA G. O. ANG
RENATO C. SALVADOR
DINAH R. DUMAYAS
EDGARDA C. GARCIA
PRECILLA ANN S. TORRES
SONIA N. ARDIENTE
ARNALDO S. CABAEL
CRISPINA M. VILLANUEVA
JASMIN V. BACAYO
EFREN C. LLAGAS
ROSARIO P. CARAIG
BELLA M. ALVAREZ
CORAZON K. ANG
ERLINDA L. DE DIOS

EVANGELINA R. REYES
MERLYN A. DE CASTRO
ELISA M. DOLOR
YOLANDA A. MORTEL
RODOLFO M. MALLARI
MILAGROS C. CLET
EMELITA S. ABANTO
MA ELENA G. ASTURIAS
EUFEMIO T. CIRIACO
NANCY R. BAUTISTA
CELIA V. AQUISAP
PETER D. LOYOLA
FERNANDO F. PALCON
LYNETTE H. CLEMENTE
CANDIDO P. MALIGALIG
VIVIAN P. ARGUELLES
CHERYL N. CLETO
GLORIA B. BARBOSA
RAULEN C. BOBE
ALFREDO D. VALERIO
TAHA A. UNOS
DEANNA C. APOSTOL
LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
MONALISA M. RIETA
KENNETH B. MIRANDA
LEONORA D. STAPLES
MELINDA G. VARIAS
ANNIE G. CAPULLA

ZENAIDA A. PALMES
RAMON M. CRUZ
ELENA PZA. CUBILLAN
EDITHA M. CARINO
JOSEPH D. DETECIO
ERLINDA S. REYES
HENRY S. GONZALES
MINERVA R. CANOZA
ROSALIE R. RANA
ROEL C. NABOS
EMILY N. VILLARIZA
ROSITA C. ABARY
ESTELA C. BELEN
CARINA R. CABITAC
BENJAMIN G. SANGALANG
MA LYN A. PILADA
CESAR M. ONATE
RUBEN L. BRITANIA
EUSEBIA M. MAGSINO
JOSE DAVID R. TANINGCO
WILHELMINA C. REYES
TEODORA B. AREVALO
ESTELITA M. VIRTUDAZO
ASUNCION C. BRUAN
SOCORRO T. PANAHON
NG CHO . IAN
ESTELITA P. MEJICO
LILIA M. AMPELOQUIO

SOLEDAD F. DE LEON
GENEROSO P. ZABALERIO
CAROLYN C. BESINGA
ANGELITA T. LASTIMOSA
RODEL A. ANDRES
EVANGELINE S. GARCIA
EMILY S. SUMPAY
FLORENDA A. JAMORA
EDDIE M. MAYONA
EDITHA C. SAPLALA
PETRONILA B. SADARAN
JESSIE IMPERIAL
TEOTIMO A. PAGADUAN
DANDE B. MACARAEG
MATILDE S. DIMALIWAT
BEVERLY A. ODVINA
PAULINA C. REYES
ROGELIO N. PEREYRA
MERLINDA P. TAN
ALLEN A. ZIPAGAN
MA THERESA E. LUCILA
VALERIANA C. DE VERA
MIRALUNA B. HAMPAC
MYRNA CAMARA
PRESCILLA L. RIVERO
MILDRED C. SENADOS
VALENTIN V. UY
MENELINA U. VALENZUELA

BERNADETTE O. AGUILAR
ANILINE P. CRUZ
ELENITA V. BELIGANIO
ERIC G. NICDAO
MA THERESA G. ROBLES
HERUNDINA B. GILO
PRISCILLA B. SOMEJO
OFELIA J. VILLANUEVA
LEY C. TARNATE
MARIE O. ASUNCION
FLORENTINA M. ARDIDON
MACRINA B. AURELLADO
LEDA B. SOBREPENA
ROSALINDA M. GUTIERREZ
MA. ASUNCION M. LERA
ADELWISA C. MIRANDA
LUCITA S. YAP
PERLITA O. CAHAPAY
JAIME M. PELIAS
ROSEMARIE D. ARMONA
WENIFREDA L. JEREZ
CLEOPATRA C. SABLON
ELENA C. SANTOS
ANNALIZA G. GALVEZ
ELIZABETH B. JARDELEZA
ROSABELLA F. YACO
EMERITA S. SANTIAGO
EDITH D. PINEDA

MA. REMEDIOS C. ACEVEDA
TERESITA R. CABARRUBIA

accident & health

The A&H Award of Honor recognizes the sales underwriter's expertise in providing clients with total insurance protection via the Accident & Health line.

LETICIA G. O. ANG
Tan Associates

MYRNA L. OLASO, LUTCF
Capule Associates

BEATRIZ V. PASTORIN
Cotabato-Jerez Agency

SUSAN T. TOLENTINO
Mangaleg Associates

TRIPLE A RATING FOR ANTONIO ASSOCIATES AGENCY

ALWAYS ABOVE AVERAGE

JOSE ISAGANI F. ANTONIO
Senior Agency Manager

The Antonio Associates of Philamlife, the premier agency of the leader in the Philippine life insurance industry, continues to hold the enviable distinction of being the only agency which has registered consistent growth in First Year Premium Income production since its inception in 1973!

The year 2000 was another breakthrough year when the Antonio Associates Senior Agency generated close to P105 Million in First Year Premium Income. Truly, the formidable Antonio Associates agents and managers are forerunners of excellence in the new millennium... **ALWAYS ABOVE AVERAGE!**

WORLD-CLASS PRODUCERS

Driven by a burning desire to win, they made it to the Highest Honor Circle of Life Insurance Agents worldwide!

JEANETTE L. MENDOZA — MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO — NORA H. CRISOSTOMO — EDITHA S. PENAFLOR — LOURDES E. BERNARDO

EMELITA S. ABANTO — GLICERIA D. DE LEON

CONSISTENT WEEKLY PRODUCERS

They are the agency's Activity Pushers, driven by a passion for excellence.

CESAR M. ONATE — MARILYN S. CANAR — ISABELITA S. CASTOR — OFELIA J. VILLANUEVA — ANNIE G. CAPULLA

FLORA L. PACAYRA — AIDA C. MATTI — CORAZON B. BARANGAN — CONSOLACION C. BLANCO — DR. CECILIA A. RUPERTO

CENTURION AWARDEES OF THE YEAR

Insuring 100 or more lives a year is their mission.

AIDA C. MATTI — CESAR M. ONATE — CECILIA U. BARNUEVO — OFELIA J. VILLANUEVA — CHARMAINE D. ASUNCION

QUALITY BUSINESS AWARDEES OF THE YEAR

Cited for preservation of their business that they have sold in the past.

VIRGINIA E. SANTOS — ROMAGNE M. ASPREC — CESAR M. ONATE — LUISA C. CUBILO — MILAGROS T. BELLO

CATHERINE S. CABALLERO — ISABELITA S. CASTOR — VIVIAN A. BADIOLA — LETICIA A. FAGARITA

TOP UNIT MANAGERS OF THE YEAR

The team builders... through their dynamic leadership, missions are accomplished!

MA. ZENAIDA N. ANTONIO — ROBERTO A. BERNARDO — ROBERTO E. MENDOZA — EDUARDO A. FORDAN — ORLANDO T. ABANTO

ROGELIO L. CRISOSTOMO — EDERLINA T. OLEGARIO

TOP AGENTS OF THE YEAR

Their outstanding achievement testifies to their strong capability to provide professional service to their clients.

LOURDES E. BERNARDO — JEANETTE L. MENDOZA — EDITHA S. PEÑAFLOR — LUCILA A. BASCON — EDITHA C. CAPISTRANO

ISABEL S. CASTOR — NORA H. CRISOSTOMO — GLICERIA D. DE LEON — OFELIA J. VILLANUEVA — EMELITA S. ABANTO

CRISTINA B. MENDOZA — AIDA C. MATTI — TERESITA S. MANALO — LILIA M. AMPELOQUIO — SYLVIA O. GAGTO

CESAR M. ONATE — MARILYN S. CANAR — JUVELYN P. POCSIDIO — CONSOLACION C. BLANCO — VIRGINIA E. SANTOS

NESTOR L. DE VILLA — PAUL R. VIDUYA — FAITH E. ESTRABO — EVELYN P. DE ZUNIGA — DR. CECILIA A. RUPERTO

ELENA D. ENRIQUEZ — JESSIE C. IMPERIAL — GRACE T. CABOTAGE — ALMA A. DE SILVA — EDITHA M. CARINO

LENY C. MARCELLANA

ROOKIE AGENTS OF THE YEAR

1st year in the business but ranked among the best of the pack.

LUCILA A. BASCON — JESSIE C. IMPERIAL — LENY C. MARCELLANA — LETTY P. RAMALES — BERNARDA A. REYES

SOLEDAD A. BERNABE

BUSINESS INSURANCE AGENT OF THE YEAR

Triple A in corporate sales!

OFELIA J. VILLANUEVA

The Antonio Associates gave birth to a new agency in Year 2000, the L. Roque Associates, thereby contributing to the growth of Philamlife's agency network.

LEONIDA D. ROQUE

Join us and profit from our reputation.
ANTONIO ASSOCIATES - PHILAMLIFE
e-mail: iaa@netasia.net Tels. 812-3243; 800-5128

A toast to Philamlife's Outstanding Sales Performers

IN THE INSURANCE industry, where a single company can acquire thousands of people, recognition is essential to upward mobility.

Philamlife, which boasts of more than 8,000 people in its agency force and is the recognized leader in the life insurance industry, has time and again acknowledged its deserving agents through its annual agency recognition program.

The annual event goes back to the early '60s when the very first honor club – the Tamaraw Club – was created. It was called the Annual Awards then. Nearly four decades later, it has now come to be known as the National Recognition Program (NRP) consisting of various clubs and citations.

The annual National Recognition Program has been eagerly awaited by the entire sales organization. To be a part of this program is, indeed, a proud milestone in the lives of Philamlife agents and agency leaders.

This year, the 2001 National Recognition Program shall once again pay tribute to the company's agency force by recognizing its outstanding agency leaders and career agents who have dedicated and committed themselves to uphold the company's standards of sales excellence, and have continually kept Philamlife the number one insurance company in the Philippines.

Without a doubt, the intensely committed and exceptional men and women of the Philamlife sales force will bring into the event a sense of celebration for the previous year's job well done.

> *To be a part of this program is, indeed, a proud milestone in the lives of Philamlife agents and agency leaders*

'1: One Company, One family, One Destiny'

PHILAMLIFE, consistently thriving as the number 1 insurance company and the country's industry leader for more than five decades, has inspired this year's theme entitled "1: One Company, One Family, One Destiny."

The numeral "1" brings a clear message that Philamlife will continuously withstand the storm and reinforce its domination in the insurance industry despite the economic challenges.

Emerging as the largest and most diversified life insurance company in the country, Philamlife shall continue to derive its strength and leadership from the legacy of a respected institution, its vaunted teamwork, and its unshakable commitment to improve the lives of the Filipino people.

Certainly, the unmatched sales performers of the entire Philamlife agency force will once again converge as *One* in this year's most awaited National Recognition Program.

The 2001 NRP Group Insurance Champions

THE GROUP Insurance Division of Philamlife has always been proud of being an essential component of every employee benefit package.

Continuously striving to improve its products and services through the use of technology and manpower development, Philamlife's thrust is to bring only the best to its clients.

Currently, two career agents stand out in making this possible. Liberato Sarosario of Uson Associates and Douglasia Canuel of Del Mundo Associates have exhibited exemplary performance by soliciting the highest production for corporate accounts for Recognition Year 2001.

Their unwavering support in promoting the company's products has made Philamlife the reliable partner of many corporations in caring for their valued workforce.

Here's a toast to the excellent sales performers of Philamlife!

EXTENDED UNTIL MARCH 31, 2001 ONLY!

PHILAM LIFE

JOINS THE ENTIRE NATION in SALUTING THE HEROES of EDSA PEOPLE POWER 2!

We start anew.
The aftermath of EDSA 2 brings hope to the Philippines.
The aftermath of EDSA 2 brings a firmer promise of security to the Filipino family.
The aftermath of EDSA 2 brings a vision of financial independence to YOU.

To support this new vision of hope & security, PHILAMLIFE GIVES YOU...

PERA POWER!

A special program that provides you and your loved ones:
** Superior savings and protection*
** Convenience - only 4 questions asked*
** No Medical Exams upon application*
** Express processing*

BEST OF ALL...substantial Cash Benefits and Comprehensive Coverage of up to 1 Million from Philamlife's PERA POWER Products:*

New PHILAM LIFE MOneymaker Prime – a savings and investment vehicle for the working individual that pays 300% of the coverage in cash plus the option to get all your money back!

PHILAM LIFE Scholar Gold – an education plan designed to respond to all of your child's essential education needs through increasing semi-annual cash stipends, insurance coverage, and contingency funds.

PHILAM LIFE Pension Builder – a savings and investment vehicle packaged with life insurance coverage. A product that provides cash benefits totalling 200% of your coverage in 15 years.

PHILAM LIFE Prosperity 繁荣 – a plan designed to answer your insurance and investment needs through lump sum cash benefits, annual cash returns, and life insurance coverage for 20 years.

PHILAM LIFE Versa DOLLAR Life – a life insurance asset in US Dollars... Security with a capital $

PHILAM LIFE [illegible] – an investment/insurance package that provides guaranteed coverage increases as well as guaranteed cash benefits every 3 years for life...

** Maximum amount issued to every applicant under this campaign. If previous offer has been availed of or applied for, there should be no more than P2 million in total coverage.*

PHILAM LIFE
Live life now.

Talk to your Philamlife agent now, or call
528-2000
for inquiries. Or visit the nearest Philamlife office.
You can also reach us in Hong Kong at (852) 2591-2218
or TEXT your inquiries at 0919-6221540

The Philam Group of Companies
offers you a full range of personal financial services:
Philam Insurance *Property & Casualty Insurance*
Philam Savings Bank *Savings & Mortgage*
Philam Asset Management *Mutual Fund Investments*
Philam Properties *Property Development*
Philam Plans *Pre-need Plans*
Philam Care *Health Care Management*
AIG Credit Card *Card Products*

AIG A Member of American International Group, Inc.
www.ephilam.com
LIFE * ACCIDENT & HEALTH * CREDIT LIFE * PENSIONS * GROUP LIFE * GROUP MEDICAL * FIRE * AUTO

Yes! I want to know more about **Philamlife's Pera Power Products.**
Name____________________
Occupation________________Age______
Home Address____________________
Home Phone__________Fax/Pager/Cell/E-mail__________
Business Address__________Business Phone__________
☐ I want to know more about the other Philamlife products.
Please send this coupon to Marketing, PHILAMLIFE INSURANCE CO., 1440 U.N. Avenue, Manila or fax to 526-9570

PHILAM LIFE

Del Mundo Associates The Way to Go

It takes one good person to lead an organization to success. But it takes a great leader to guide that organization to significance.

The Esteem Team

The L.M. Del Mundo Associates is the second largest agency of industry leader, Philamlife, and it prides itself in being a sales and marketing organization with the heart and soul of extraordinary achievers.

Currently with 250 agents and 15 agency leaders, the Del Mundo Associates could only have grown its organization because of a dynamic partnership between its field management and Philamlife.

Senior Agency Manager Lourdes "Lulu" M. Del Mundo has blazed the trail from humble beginnings to become the most admired lady sales manager in Philamlife. Not content with simply carrying her own torch, she continues to be a shining example of leadership in the whole life insurance industry.

The Del Mundo Associates was formed 27 years ago and has proven that with true loyalty, support and innovation, good agencies become great organizations. Mgr. Del Mundo has exhibited unwavering loyalty to Philamlife. She has the distinction of having served all four Presidents of the company. Her personal and professional successes are drawn from the inspiration and values of the leaders of the company. "Founding President, Earl L. Carroll, was more Filipino than most Filipinos at that time. His vision was to tap the latent savings in the country after the war by providing a life policy in every Filipino family," she reminisces. Lulu took special pride in working with Cesar C. Zalamea, the first Filipino President of Philamlife. When no one dared to put a woman in management, dynamic leader and later on to become the Company's third CEO, Rodrigo de los Reyes, saw the vast potential of this lady and readily made her Philamlife's first female manager. This empowered the women in the company and gave them equal opportunities in terms of sales leadership in Philamlife. From Mr. De los Reyes, Lulu Del Mundo learned the true meaning of commitment to excellence. Jose L. Cuisia, Jr., Philamlife's CEO today, is a "very caring, sincere and intellectually stimulating leader," she says. "He steers the company with his professionalism, dedication and total focus with loving kindness. His style of management reflects a transformational leadership where he instills pride, faith and respect among the agency leaders and the agency force."

The different traits of Philamlife's Presidents have rubbed-off on Mgr. Del Mundo all these years — she thus declares, "How can I fail?"

The Del Mundo Associates exhibited this commitment to success by being on top of all new products and marketing opportunities that Philamlife has launched throughout the years, always providing the proper support and enthusiasm so that these innovations are immediately shared with their clients and policyholders. In all financial services that the Philam Group of Companies has developed, the Del Mundo Associates has been at the forefront. On many occasions, the agency pioneered marketing strategies and sales methods. Whether in healthcare, non-life insurance, mutual funds and their core business, life insurance, there will always be a Del Mundo agent who can provide first-rate financial solutions.

It is only by recognizing the true partnership between Philamlife and the Del Mundo Associates that lasting successes happen, and Senior Agency Manager Lulu Del Mundo will always stand by this belief. According to Lulu, "True faith, bonding and sharing with your the Company is necessary for a win-win relationship that will last beyond 27 years."

The Del Mundo Associates will always aim to be a dynamic agency. Behind its unwavering record of success are its energetic awardees, career agents and agency leaders, The agency is made up of carefully selected individuals who are highly motivated by a desire to provide meaningful service to their clients. A powerful promoter of continuing education and learning, Mgr. Del Mundo believes that her associates must undergo a precise academic and skills development program to be fully prepared for a full-time sales career in Philamlife. Independence, professionalism and creativity — these are the qualities that an associate of Del Mundo must develop while under her care.

On Values: "Values are caught not taught. Management is, first of all, leadership by example. Words are useless without the witness of deeds. To be effective as leaders, we have to do the hard things first."

On Family Culture: "I have always emphasized the strengthening of 'Family bonds' to every member of the agency. This is relevant to how one performs in a business organization."

On Professionalism: "It's all about observing the ethical requirements of the life insurance profession. I have always discouraged 'transferees' whether from agency to agency or from other companies. 99% of my agents are home grown. I'd rather develop someone coming in 'raw'."

The Del Mundo Associates' confidence in its ability to rise to every challenge is its foundation for attaining excellence. Leading and navigating the agency to greater heights is its committed core of Unit Managers who have exhibited their passion for excellence, especially during difficult times. For the year 2000, the agency proudly recognizes **9 Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) Qualifiers, 8 Premier Agents, 14 International Jetsetters, 16 President's Circle Awardees and 7 Rookie Agents**, not to mention 10 out of 15 Unit Managers, excluding Mgr. Del Mundo, who are also awardees. Many of the Associates are multi-awarded and have been consistently among the top ranking agents of the Company for many years.

The Del Mundo Associates sailed the waves of Year 2000 with record months and consistent growth, with sales promotions and one-of-a-kind agency events, with a new breed of leaders and a persistent focus on agency expansion.

No storm can sink this formidable ship. It aims to name itself ***The Esteem Team***. To "esteem" is to value, to respect and to regard highly. And it is because of this value that is imbibed in every agent that will keep the Del Mundo Associates of Philamlife at the forefront of progress and unparalleled growth.

VIVIENNE SOLON
MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE

NELIA LAUDICO
MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE, PREMIER AGENT (PLATINUM)

ZENAIDA PALMES
MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE

PRESCILLA RIVERO
PREMIER AGENT (SILVER)

MA. ELENA ASTURIAS
MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE, PREMIER AGENT (GOLD)

LOURDES M. DEL MUNDO
SENIOR AGENCY MANAGER, MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE, PREMIER AGENT (GOLD)

LUCILA KIERULF
MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE

MA. THERESA SOLON
MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE, PREMIER AGENT (GOLD)

ANUNCIACION BIROG
MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE, PREMIER AGENT (PLATINUM)

NILDA UY
MILLION DOLLAR ROUND TABLE, PREMIER AGENT (SILVER)

FELICIDAD DINLASAN
PREMIER AGENT (GOLD)

THE AGENCY LEADERS

standing from L-R: Lucila Kierulf, Ernesta Ignacio, Zenaida Palmes, Cezanna Realuyo, Nilda Uy, Narciso Solon, Evelyn Tuason, Soledad Mamit, Norma Magpantay Fe De Dios, Belen Quiogue,

seated from L-R: Luisito Laudico, Nelia Laudico, Ma Elena Asturias, Leopoldo Llorente

NATIONAL AWARDEES
President's Circle & Centurion Club

standing from L-R Evangelina Reyes, Emma Arcilla, Douglasia Canuel, Adelaida San Mateo, Antonio Santana, Luisito Laudico, Alicia Clavería, Alma Llorente, Ana Viola Laquian, Rebecca Abrilla

seated from L-R: Aniline Cruz, Felicidad Dinlasan, Prescilla Rivero, Norma De Venecia, Eden Jalosjos, Susana Tunngan

Standing from L-R: Estela Camaro, Edgardo Torrente, Jr., Luzviminda Manlapig,

seated from L-R Victor Salak, Elizabeth Racho, Domingo Reyes

not in photo Myrna Gomez, Ma. Luz Vencio

SECTORAL AWARDEES
Tamaraw Club & Rookie Club

The L.M. Del Mundo Associates: Ground Floor, ALCCO Building, Ortigas Avenue,
Greenhills, San Juan Tel. Nos: 721-2394, 722-6367, 721-2865 Fax No: 721-2393

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ALI MALL, CUBAO, QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

RATE
P230 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

"I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."
John 14:6

PEDRO RUIZ NAVARRO

of Naujan, Oriental Mindoro and Quezon City
(Husband of the late **Erlinda Umali Navarro**)

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord on March 7, 2001 at the age of 83.

His bereaved children and their spouses **Yolanda, Ma. Loreto, Ma. Luz** and **Casto Jr., Antonio & Mariles, Jose & Rowena & Ma. Carmen & Allan**; grandchildren; sister **Anita**; and all relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at the Mt. Carmel Shrine, Broadway, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Sunday, March 11, 2001 at the Holy Cross Memorial Park, Novaliches, Quezon City after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Jose P. Copon

Died on March 3, 2001 at the age of 63.

His bereaved wife **ROSA GALPO COPON**; daughters **JOY** and **ROCEL**; son **JERRICK**; son-in-law **PAUL**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Saturday, March 10, 2001 at Himlayang Pilipino after the 1:00 p.m. Mass at the San Isidro Labrador Parish Church, Philand Drive, Quezon City.

PATRICIO L. LUCERO

of Tagudin, Ilocos Sur and Puerto Princesa City

Passed away on March 6, 2001 at the age of 67.

His bereaved wife **Nora**; children **Dan** and **Connie, Dave** and **Carol, Joyce** and **Jun, Mae, Dante** and **Marlene** and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at the Funeraria Sampaton, Puerto Princesa City.

Interment will be on March 14, 2001.

ROSA YU GLINOGA

of Pitogo, Quezon

*Passed away in New Jersey, U.S.A. on 4 March 2001 at the age of 88 to join her husband **LUIS**, and daughter **ELOISA**.*

Her children **SENEN** and **ERLINDA** (†), **CELESTE, GAMALIEL** and **LINDA, EULALIO** and **MARISOL, EXCELSO** and **ELIZABETH, RENE, MARIA LUISA, LUIS JR., ENRICO** and **JOSIE**, and **ROBERTO ANGELITO**; sisters **ZOSIMA Y. LOO** and **ANTONIA Y. TAN**; sister-in-law **UY EHK HUA** and grandchildren request prayers for her eternal repose.

Her remains will lie in state at Capilla del Señor, Santuario De San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati City starting at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, 9 March 2001.

Interment will be on Sunday, 11 March 2001 at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the 2:00 p.m. Mass.

Vitaliana "Vitling" Batica de Veyra

*Peacefully joined her Creator and husband **Angel** on February 16, 2001 in Maryland, USA at the age of 83.*

Her children **Choling** and **Winnie, Winnie** and **Neil, Pepe** and **Alma, Rosie** and **Ely, Jean** and **Jim, Yokyok, Lenny** and **Joy, Alex, Cris** and **Jun**, her grandchildren; brother **Benito**; sisters **Gaudiosa, Mely, Esperanza** and **Cris**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her cremated remains will be at the Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City from March 12-14 and will be transferred to K of C Hall, Tanauan, Leyte on March 15.

Interment will be on Saturday, March 17 at the Tanauan Cemetery after the Mass.

Natividad Gosuico Gatbunton

has joined her Creator on March 6, 2001 at the age of 87.

Her children **Gail** and **Eddie Laconico, Vinci** and **Tina Zamora**; grandchildren **Geri** and **Tim, Vincent** and **Yvette, Chrissie**, and **Nikki**; great grandchildren, relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City. Viewing will be from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily.

Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Our Dearly Beloved Mama

Adela "Liling" B. San Andres

Retired Principal of Pinyahan Elem. School, Quezon City.

Peacefully joined our Lord on March 7, 2001 at the age of 80.

Her late husband **Francisco San Andres** (†); loving children **Luis, Chedy, Tita, Ramon, Thelma, Benny, Trini** and **Jean**; children-in-law **Salve, Larry, Ana Dalda, Frank, Marichu** and **Marc**; grandchildren, great grandchildren, sisters **Francisca Masa** and **Marcosa Cordova**; sister-in-law **Anacoreta Belen**; relatives and friends request the pious reader to say a prayer for the eternal rest of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Holy Family Parish, K-1 cor. K-7th Street, Kamias, Quezon City.

Funeral Mass shall be on Saturday, March 10, 2001 at 12:00 noon at the Holy Family Parish Church followed by the interment in Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque, Metro Manila.

"We know that God raised the Lord Jesus from death. He will raise us to life with Jesus. He will present us, along with you, to God."
2 Corinthians 4:14

First Death Anniversary
of our Dearly Beloved

Mamang

FELICIDAD "Fely" RAMIREZ AGLUGUB

of Naguilian, Isabela and Cubao, Q.C.

Who died in the Grace of our Lord on March 9, 2000

Holy Masses offered at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Cubao for nine days. The family requests pious readers to include **Mamang** in their prayers.

"From darkness let the light shine."
Genesis 1:13

ARTEMIO ORETA LAPUZ

April 1, 1911 - March 7, 2001

His wife **Emerenciana**; sister **Regina**; and other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for his soul.

His remains lie in state at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City.

Interment is on March 10, 2001 at 10:00 AM at San Juan Cemetery.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN •

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST
Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel, Pasig City
Tels. 640-2145 • 640-2975 • 641-1760
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch:
A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu
Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City
Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City
Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City
Tels. 740-2683; 781-3705; 781-3688;
413-9400; 715-5594
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605; (047) 611-1086;
(047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014.
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City
Tel. 894-5032 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St.,
Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102; 741-5125; 741-5133
Fax No. 711-3084

FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila
Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
Tels. (045) 322-5247 ; (045) 888-2959
F. SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City;
Tels. 646-1725/1730
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City
Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila
Tels. 642-3010; 633-3602
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila
Tels. 642-8181 to 82
HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Sucat, Parañaque City Tels. 825-1206; 825-1291
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur
Tel. 722-2730; Cell (0917) 5680136 ; (0917) 5580145
Manila #23 Pato St., Project 2, Quezon City;
Tel. 434-3268
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1601 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila;
Tels. 711-6931 to 35; 732-4795
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City;
Tels. 749-3806 to 11
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City
Tel. (074) 443-3337

LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City
Tel. 895-1011 to 19
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal
Tels. 645-1855; 682-0209; 682-0210
MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
Arellano St., Dagupan City
Tels. (075) 515-5960; 515-6529; (0919) 348-7131
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tels. 713-5231 to 35; 714-0867; 714-0868
ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St.
Mandalagan, Bacolod City Tel. 433-7132
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Cementina St., Pasay City
Tels. 831-1204
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City
Telefax 724-4139; 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City
Tels. 852-8228, 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-18 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila
Tels. 749-3679; 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
286 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tels. 372-5084; 410-9286 / 87
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City
Tels. 831-3797; 844-7846; 843-1801; 845-4836

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ① Copy of Death Certificate ② Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ALI MALL, CUBAO, QUEZON CITY
☎912 9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P230 per column centimeter P65 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays 12:00 noon Day before publication
Sundays 12:00 noon every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

SKIN PEEL & WHITENING WARTS PIMPLES SCARS HAIRLOSS Ex SWEAT VD-STD 15 Annapolis, Greenhills Call 7276124 to 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD CLINIC T8175071 MATRINCO BLDG. 2178 PTAMO MKT 9-2pm DR. GATAN

PERSONAL

ARCHITECTS

House/Bldg Plan 7282605 Land Survey Sucs-8819158

HEALTH/FITNESS

BE SLIM 2443937

MASSAGE

Home-Hotel Srvs 0917-4308796

H.S. Massage09176473839

Massage24hr 09193727855

ASK GEORGE M/F 24 HRS SERVICES 8521874 100% HDSME

H-H-M-S MALE 7314018

Male #16 Palanan 7320659

MASSAGE (0919)433-3191 GEM

•NewMabuhay Msg4383570

•NICE GUYS 4218450

PUREMASSAGE 09173939095

VIP-M/F-8312373 09193591771

Wind-Off! 752-3149 M/F

REFLEXOLOGY

Scorpion Massg 4372542

D' Millenium Tel#9347633

Male/VIP/0917-3849954 ok

REFLEX 09173448876 Daniel

REFLEX 0919-2395660 Jojo

REFLEX CARLA 716-4898

REFLEX LUIS 0917-5377022

TUTORIAL LESSONS

LALUZ 5268216/5268270

MISCELLANEOUS

FACIAL SKINCARE Training/ Workshop 8971832 or 8956031 L2011

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

Affordable Maids 872-0265

Prov'l All Around Maids Driver H'Boy w/NBI 8735062•8712372

BEST MAID PROV'L. 7111602

BEST MAIDS w/NBI 853-3504

Help Agency 5328376/5321947

MAIDS 9124701•9124706

MAIDS w/CLEAR 807-5788

MAIDS Available • 871-2370

PACIFIC MAIDS ETC SINCE 1948 T:7312672

RELIABLE MAID YAYA 7418078

We have nurse oldsitter homecare 9270418 4536305

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

L-BAHAY 8383742/5447599

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

•LBahay7008843/6392210•

•LBahay7251645/7441698•

LIPAT AGAD 5220956

•LIPAT•731-6833

CARPET CLEANING

CARPET Sofa Shampooing 820-7068

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

QUEZON CITY

Proj.7 LA200m² w/1sty off Bldg. w ide St. nr SM City P5M neg Tel 4140907.4130841.3710692

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

OTHER AREAS

GUEVENTHOMES
BACOOR near SM
Individual Carport
P10T-P20T/mo. NO D/P

Other units available:
Cainta, Baguio,
Mandaluyong, San Juan
531-1384 • 531-0390/95
(0915) 704-3888
rsgsales@edsamall.com.ph
www.guevent.com

HOUSE & LOT

ALABANG

Alabang Hills LA450m² 3BR P10M • 533-5525

LAS PINAS

BFR 200m² 2Sty 4BR BN P3.9M 800-7749/802-8228

BFR 208m² 3BR P2.3M 8007749

BFRes 180m² 3br 2tb 1.6M 1.8M 2.5M 8726951 • 8723140

BFRes 300m² Cor. 3BR 2TB 3.3M 872-6951 • 872-3140

Auburn Place New 2Stry 3BR 2.2M Terms 872-6951

BFRes BNew 2Stry Corner 4BR 4TB 2.9M 872-6951

Citadella 296m² 2Sty 4BR w/Attic 4CG P6.5M 8007749

Manuela 4A 192 @5700/m² Neg. • Tel.# 874-7234

Auburn Place 2.2M 2stys 3br 2tb new Term 8747234

BFRV 2.7M Neg 3br 3tb 2carport LA186 874-7234

BFRV 2.5M 3br 2tb Phone 2Carport LA180 • 874-7234

BFRV 2.6M Neg 2sty 4br 3tb B-New 874-7234 Pepe

BFRV 2.2M 2sty 3br 2tb Single Terms • 874-7234

BFRV 2.2M 3br 2tb Phone Neg LA144 FA90 874-7234

BFRV 2.7M Neg LA341 2BR 1TB FA70 • 874-7234

Pilar BNew 2Stry 4br 3TB Nice P2.7M • 872-6951

BFRes BNew 2Stry 4BR 3TB 3.8M Terms 872-6951

LPinas New 2Stry 3BR 2TB 2.2M Terms • 872-6951

MAKATI

Holiday Inn Eaton Makati Good Income Tel 928-1469

Magallanes Subd. - Makati H&L LA367 3BR 643-5313

MANILA

Sing nr St.Sch La Sal 5268632

MARIKINA

Grnind bnew 3br 2M 9487112

PARANAQUE

BF 4BR 269m² BN P8.9 8007749

BF Ex 280LA 3BR BN 6M 8007749

PASIG

Psg Bo Kapitolyo H&L New 5BTB 24hrs H'O • 643-5313

Valle Verde LA840 FA600 4br 6pkg Elegant 681-2457

QUEZON CITY

Nr SM Fview 260m² 4140418

*Ayala Heights New 372-0888 / 69 / 25

Baler St. QC L-3000/m² Whse 18T/m² Tel 928-1469

Greenmeadows LA805 FA650 6br 8pkg Jacuzzi 681-2457

•GSIS Hills C-5/Quirino Hi. New 3.9M LA300 4br 7215226

House & Lot Kamuning QC LA350 4BR P13M 533-5525

House & Lot QC LA600m² 5BR 15M 400m² 533-5525

LOYOLA GRAND VILLAS 4BR/6T& B FA460 LA401 435-2346/0917-7062620

Maginhawa U.P. Vil H&L LA650sqm P10M 633-4107

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

QUEZON CITY

MONTGOMERY PLACES Block 5 Facing East E. Rodiguez TEL#0917-8311757

North Olympus 4173705

Samat St. w/5sty Bldg 600 SMH QC Whse 9298376

Sta. Mesa Hts 240m² 3BR 3TB Mds Rm 6M 931-7898

E. Abada/Ateneo P24T/m² 1,500 10BR • 721-5226

RIZAL

Birmingham Place Cainta 260m² 2.6M Rush 6334107

FILINVEST EASTVILLE Bung 3br2tb FA115 LA132 2kit. Cash/Term 677-1955

PROVINCIAL

LAGUNA BEL AIR 3 2600 Units ready 4 reservation! Luis 834-2296 • 0917-8113239

Tagatay 249.5m 2sty BNew Tel.# 453-4877

Tagaytay L286m² 2Sty Bnew 453-4877 • 928-1469

OTHER AREAS

CanyonWoods Bingas 7.5M ownerlvngSF0917-8143792

•LAGUNA BEL-AIR 3• LA120m² up 2-3BR w/pkg Joann 912-5775

CASIMIRO TOWNHOMES
Habay, Bacoor, Cavite
near SM Bacoor
Initial DP: P15,000

WESTVILLE HOMES
Ligas, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P15,000
FORTE REALTY
2/F Princess Bldg, Esteban St, Legaspi Village, Makati City
810-8019 873-0787
810-7183 872-7603
815-2144 871-8318
810-7297
Welcome Brokers & Agents

LOT

KALOOCAN

Deparo Cal. City 5000m² VLot P3500T/m² 453-4877

LAS PINAS

BFRV 180m² @ 6,500/m² Near Philam • 874-7234

Camella Prop. Barcelona Sub. •5411121•8741303•

BF Resort 169m² 176m² 180m² 6500/m² • 874-7234

BFRV 176m² @6500/m² neg near BlumField 874-7234

Manuela 4A Thru Verdant 192m² @5700 Neg 8747234

BFRV nr Abel Mosce 169m² 6500 • 874-7234

MANILA

203m² Modesto-Malate 5253649/5367371/Rush-DB

MANDALUYONG

•Nr Shaw Addition Hills• 4000m² Thse Proj 721-5226

MARIKINA

Marikina Heights 1860m² P6.5M Neg. • 931-7898

PARANAQUE

Sucat V/L 724m² w/Old Hse at rear 22M neg. 643-5313

QUEZON CITY

•Acropolis 414m² P41T/m² •South DBO 721-5226

Corinthian Lots 40T up 7240394/7226578 0917-4792264

Del Monte Ave. QC 1600m² V-Lot • Tel 928-1469

Tandang Sora QC L-1640m² P16T/m² • Tel.# 928-1469

Ma Clara Nr. Banawe 1Tm² 23T/m² 724-0394/722-6578

New Mla QC 7449m² 815-0298 • 0919-4037225

Nr Mindanao Ave. 335m² 3720880;3720825;3720869

Sikatuna V 600m² 12M 915-5177 • 0917-5325440

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

QUEZON CITY

Nr SM Fview 100m² P5600 Cash/ Term 3720888/25/69

PROVINCIAL

2029m² Lot Res / Comm'l 28 Sn Juan Evang. St. Goa, Camarines Sur Call (054)4531121 6-9 pm Look for Bobby

Malinta Bul 7049m² VLot Along Hiway Tel 453-4877

Puerto Princesa good 4 fstfood bank 0917-3711210

Southwoods Cavite 480m² Face South P7T 633-4107

•Tiaong Quezon 3.6Hec• 600/m² Town Hway 7215226

VARIOUS AREAS

1.)Ayala Avenue Extension, Kamagong Street and Metropolitan Ave.-884m² 2.)Factory Warehouse, Sun valley, Paranaque-8,750m² 3.)Ayala Alabang, Buencamino St.-1,000m² 4.) Vista Verde, Cainta 2,485m² fully fenced Tel.#:8976286/89•8960194 •DAVE/TESS•

CONDO/TWNHSE/A

MANDALUYONG

Pioneer Highlands 117sq 3TB w/Maid Rm F-Furnish P8M Neg. DBO Mike/Cathy 640-4037 6-12am Mon-Fri

RushIMegaPlaza 48.50sqm 1br 2.7MNeg 09178143792

T'house Mandaluyong 4BR Fa150 P6.5M • 533-5525

WACKWACK THomes 93 sqm 2BR 3.2M 531-2021 • 0917-3955738

PARANAQUE

Bet Liv 2stry 09176011115

PASIG

Pacific Place Ortigas 3BR 3TB Pkg SF 3.9M 6352115

QUEZON CITY

Cubao Condo P1.3M "EZ"terms Swap Lots Cars C. Shares 9120647 9124428 4381480

BURGUNDY Plaza QC 2BR 2.5M 5312021 0917-3955738

GOLFHILL nr Capitol Golf 2BR 16T Pkg 9323280-81

•LOYOLA HEIGHTS• 4BR 4T&B with attic P4.2M FA210m² 436-4608/928-0354

NOVALICHES 350T 9390299

RIZAL

Montalban 350T 913-0393

nr Makro 1.2 5yr 2926137

MEMORIAL LOT

Heritage Park Now Open Several Lots • 671-4421

Loyola Memorial Plots Sucat Paranaque Virgie Call 913-2554 or 929-7110

CLUB SHARE & MEMBERSHIP

RUSH Golf Share Boracay P850T txt 0919-5565946

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

KALOOCAN

3620065 Briones 7Ave 5/T 2T8

MAKATI

2BRoom w/T&Bathtub Nice Mktl Area w/Prkg 728-3283

MANDALUYONG

2BR w/Garage/Tel. 531-0964

PASAY

NEAR HP 5,500 1BR 5369502 0917847-3727 PG141-208065

QUEZON CITY

Cubao 2sty T-998-2547

HOUSE

MAKATI

• Dasmarinas VIII Makati • 4BR 4383970 0917-7914379

ACAD OPERATORS, DRAFTSMEN, ADMIN. ASST.

Minimum of 2 years work experience preferably in an architectural design or construction firm. Bring resumé and sample of works. Windows literate.

2/F ATRIUM BUILDING, MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
TEL. NOS. 811-4349, 812-3524

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

MAKATI

Sn Mig 45A Layug 8965722/23

QUEZON CITY

4BR Duplx Proj4 9118238

New Intramuros QC 120m² 2BR 1TB 2cg 10K 931-7898

RIZAL

Antipolo Bnew 3br 2tb 6447461 ; 0917-4022356

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

Makati FA300m² 3BR FF 85T UNF 100T/mo 5335525

MANDALUYONG

Mandaluyong 1BR New 77m² P2.4M UNF 533-5525

PASIG

Ortigas Center 2br 40T 3br 60T/month UNF • 533-5525

Ortigas Ctr 2BR FA122m² UNF P25T/mo. • 533-5525

QUEZON CITY

P5,500/mo.CUBAO P6,500/mo.Malate Call 911-3361 / 926-4071

SAN JUAN

G'hills 1br FA56m² 18T/mo Parking UNF • 533-5525

FOR LEASE

Buendia 5479610/09194310375

•LOT-490m² A.Tuazon & 700m² A. Rodriguez Mkna 438-3970

Roosevelt Ave Lot 300m² 438-3970 • 0917-7914379

ROOM & BOARD

M/F Prof. w/Bfast Dinner Acess Call 433-4677

Mktl Apartel 500-700/day 3T-4.2T/wk ful/fur 8995386

LOAN & MORTGAGE

Doctors, Dentist, DVM, Bus, Salary, Real Est. 524-3197

BUSINESS RENTAL

P1,800/mo Stalls Malate T-400-6420/23 Sn Pedro Lag 8086006/07

CLINIC SPACE 522-8325

FOR LEASE BANK SITE 873 V.G. Cruz nr. Espana /Trabaho Market Brand New Ready for Occupancy Tel: 3098060/09196016293

PASIG Bo. De La Paz Off/ Whse LA1000m² 3PH 2Tel Call 725-0462

TEKTITE P300/m² 2420922

Tektite-W 109+Pkg FFurn 350/sqm w/View 6334107

RESORT

Jala Jala Blu! View 10,000m² 6447461; 0917-4022356

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HONDA

96+HVTec 340T neg. 7216583

96LXI P320T 09175330696

MAZDA

94 Astima 185T 7216583

MERCEDES

126M.Benz All Orig See 2 appreciate 634-8160

92MB 190E 2,3L A1cond AllOrig 30Tkm M/T LSeat P675T 8172708

MITSUBISHI

99 L300 FB 400Tneg 641-9901

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

NISSAN

'98 Sentra SS Fld 12TKm 9207433/0973-691169 Daisy

TOYOTA

97 T. Crla XL 258T neg. Tel. 7216583 Accs. w/50Th orig. 93 LaceGXL 240T 7216583 84 TCrla 68T neg. 7216583

HEAVY EQUIPMENT TRANSPORT

5units Kubota Trctr3672002

D20P Dozer P160 3610215

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273453 4538295

Starex, L300, Coaster Bus Cars 637-7396 • 631-3496

Van Coaster Bus 440-91-71

CARS•VANS•8957247•8969956 BUS•CSTER•BRIDAL•8955623

H-100 Van/Honda 920-7360

FOR LEASE 14 Slot Cemented CAR PARK along C. Raymundo Ave., Corner Mercedes Ave., San Miguel, Pasig City Suitable for CAR BUY & SELL BUSINESS Contact LYN @ 6402145 or 6402975

HiAce L300 Urvan 8257135

IT/ Hiace 9136710/4333682

L300 T 4161105 / 7411356

MB100 Hi-Ace Starex 9483535

SELFDRIVE or w/driver ALL BRAND OF CARS & VANS ABC-5368822 & 3039789

STAREX L3 9121809/7268388

•Car,Vans4535288;9296250

PARTS & ACCESSORIES

STEERING FIXES LEAKS HARD-STEERING
3 months guaranteed work
RUBBERVOLT
36 West Ave., Quezon City
115 Mindanao Ave., Quezon City
Tel#929-1514 Credit Cards Honored

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CARS 8990215

CAR LOAN

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523-24

2% w/o taking car 7262780

2% w/o Taking Car 3670169

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

SPORTING GOODS

Billiard P25T & P30T New Accept C.Card • 781-9453

B.Table B'new/Accessories •(02)8014494/8020566•

STRIKEMASTER Bowling & Billiards Sales & Rentals T-9341569

WANTED TO BUY

B/SELL FUL PD EDUC PLAN Gie 7137284•09177939632

BUYING ROLEX others, High Price CASH CALL 09178142309/7269687

Buy / Sell / Pawn / Repair ROLEX Tel# 804-0484 • 834-2886

MISCELLANEOUS

7.5/ 15/ 20 - KWA 3672002

Department of Agrarian Reform Adjudication Board (DARAB)
Annex Building, DAR Compound
Elliptical Road, Quezon City

LIST OF VACANT POSITIONS

(4) Regional Agrarian Reform Adjudicators, SG-28

- Must be a Bachelor of Laws degree holder
- Must have been engaged in the active practice of law for at least five (5) years, preferably with experience on litigation and with extensive background on agrarian reform laws
- R.A. No. 1080 eligibility
- Must be computer literate
- Place of Assignment: CAR (Baguio City)
  Region II (Tuguegarao)
  Region III (San Fernando, Pampanga)
  Region XII (Cotabato City)

(24) Provincial Agrarian Reform Adjudicators, SG-27

- Must be a Bachelor of Laws degree holder
- Must have been engaged in the active practice of law for at least two (2) years, preferably with experience on litigation and with good background on agrarian reform laws
- R.A. No. 1080 eligibility
- Must be computer literate
- Place of Assignment: Ilocos Norte; Batanes; Nueva Ecija; Bataan, North Nueva Ecija; South Nueva Ecija; Laguna; Oriental Mindoro; Palawan; Albay; Masbate; Eastern Samar; Sulu; Bukidnon; Misamis Occidental; Misamis Oriental; Davao City; Davao del Sur; South Cotabato; Lanao del Norte; Lanao del Sur; Maguindanao; Sultan Kudarat; Surigao del Sur

Interested applicants are requested to submit their curriculum vitaé with 2x2 photo, transcript of records or diploma and photocopy of **proof of eligibility** to the DARAB Secretariat not later than **March 16, 2001.**

Qualified applicants will undergo a comprehensive examination and an interview.

For inquiries, please call **Atty. Analiza R. Teh, OIC-Executive Director, DARAB Secretariat** at (632)426-2605.

NAUTICOS MARINE EXPLORATION, INC.
2305 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City
Telephone Nos. 8935391/8185281/8156051

For Immediate Hiring

CHIEF ENGINEER - Male, between 35 - 45 years old. Must be a licensed Chief Engineer and a graduate of a reputable marine/nautical school. Must have a solid experience, preferably in Yanmar and Hanshin engines. To be assigned onboard a research boat.

1st and 2nd ENGINEER - Male, between 35 - 45 years old. Must be a license 1st / 2nd Engineer and a graduate of a reputable marine/nautical school. Must have a solid experience, preferably in Yanmar and Hanshin engines. To be assigned onboard a research boat.

COOK - Between 30 - 40 years of age and of good health. Must have at least five (5) years of experience as a cook and is familiar with Filipino and Chinese dishes. Culinary knowledge and familiarity with other types of foods an advantage. To be assigned on board a research boat.

Those selected will be assured of a good and competitive compensation package. Qualified candidates may please **SEND** their curriculum vitaé with 2x2 I.D. pictures at the above address, or **APPLY IN PERSON** together with their curriculum vitaé on **MARCH 11, 2001** (Sunday) between 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon and look for Ray Maranan on the above address.

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

MISCELLANEOUS

ELECTION PRINT JOBS ELECTION PAPERS 640-3792 • 643-5052 Boy

For Export Market Pure Organic Foliar Fertilizer T-(034)4351525/FAX (034)4351526/C-09192885583

Valle Verde I Tiangge Sa Park Saturday 17 March 2001 8am-6pm Contact Girlee 671-2555 / 671-5714

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

Gen. Mgr Scty Agency 6313496

FEMALE

Maid 4 Foreigner 726-1266

MALE/FEMALE

CARE GIVER T6280722

Dining Supervisor, HRM, HRA, Masscom, Food Service Crew, Food Server, Cook, Kitchen Helper, Bartender, Maetre'd, Cashier, PR Party Events Organizer, Electronic Tech, Computer Tech, Mobile DJ, Concert Organizer Rock Bands Light Sound Tech, PR Promo Banquet Sales Send resume/Apply at #44 Sgt. Esguerra Ave near Hi-top, QC Tel 4156644 Fax 9241646 email:d_starr @compass.com.ph

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

Direct Hiring OFC STAFF. Call Erika at 7366660

★ IMMIGRATE ★ LIVE and WORK in Canada Australia 8175511/8944950

HIRING OFFICE STAFF CALL 7366660 MS WENG

Ex-Truck Sales Agents for MM (for sar-sari- stores) w/ exp. Asst. Manager - Female Below 40 yrs old; w/ wking exp. PLS APPLY PERSONALLY FOODWORLD MFG. CORP. 8Th Ave (East), Kal. City 9AM TO 12NN only

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

LOW & SLOW INCOME? TRIPLE YOUR MONEY IN 1YR 0917-4719372 (DAVE)

TELEMARKETING 2477469

EARN $ 2926137

RTW Cash/Consign 3738821

RTW Cash/Term 7299681

TShirt Fac.Price 4383147

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on the extrajudicial settlement of the Estate of Spouses JOSE NERY and PAULA BARBIN NERY on February 9, 2001, duly acknowledged before Notary Public for Makati City, Atty. Dominga F. Calangiang, as Doc. No. 253, Page No. 52, Book No. II Series of 2001 of her notarial register.
(PDI-Feb. 23, Mar. 2, 9, 2001)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ELIAS C. CUSI has been extrajudicially settled by his heirs as per Doc No.5; Page No.2; Book No.314; Series of 2001 before Notary Public Santiago R. Reyes of the City of Manila.
(PDI - Mar 2, 9 & 16, 2001)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late AMADO J. DOMINGO, SR, was settled by his heirs through an extrajudicial partition acknowledge before Notary Public Emerico B. Lomibao for and in the City of Manila as Doc. No. 359 on Page 11, Book XXXI, Series of 2001 of his Notarial Register
PDI-March 9, 16 & 23, 2001

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given of the loss of Bureau of Immigration Alien Certificate of Registration No. E076812 and Immigrant Certificate of Residence No. 231264 under the name of MR. LIANG KAI LAI
PDI-Mar. 9,16 & 23, 2001

GIA
THAILAND CAMPUS

Gemological Institute of America

Learn the principles of quality Jewelry Design from the world's #1 gemological institute

Jewelry Design Class

Step-by-Step, Develop the skills needed to create
and illustrate designs for a variety of jewelry
in full color and fine detail

NO artistic training or experience required

Next Jewelry Design Class starts April 30, 2001

GIA Thailand Campus

Tel: (662) 237-9575 to 77 Fax: (662) 236-9829
giathai@ksc15.th.com www.giathailand.com

National Power Corporation

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID
AD NO. PD 2001-14

Rebidding Date: March 16, 2001 - 10:00 AM

PB010202-T3JR5783	WELDING ELECTRODE
PB010226-T3JR5859	PAINT/PRESS BOARD/SEALANT/PENETRATING OIL
PB010226-T3JR5862	SWIMMING POOL CHEMICALS
PB010226-T3JR5863	SPORTS UNIFORM for GCAA Duckpin/Tennis Tournament with NPC and GCAA logo

****Bidding Date: March 26, 2001**

2001-14-01	MOBILE RADIO, UHF/FM Field 403-433 MHz
2001-14-02	DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMER, 25 KVA, Single Phase, 60 cycle
2001-14-03	WELDING ELECTRODE/FILLER METAL
2001-14-04	SHAFTING BAR, 125 mm x 3 m L
2001-14-05	PRINTER HEAD for Datamax Prodigy Plus
2001-14-06	SAFETY MATERIALS (Working Clothes, Shoes, Safety Caps, Air Filled Ear Plugs)

Interested parties are invited to prequalify and to submit sealed bids on the above to be opened publicly at the Sampaguita Room, Ground Floor, Building 2, NPC-OBC, Quezon Avenue corner Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City.

Accreditation forms can be obtained from Mondays thru Fridays at the Accreditation and Bidding Support Services, Materials Management Department, Ground Floor, Building 2 upon payment of **P50.00**, submission of company's TIN and proof of listing at the telephone directory. **Deadline for submission of duly accomplished forms on **March 15, 2001**.

Bidding documents available on **March 8, 2001 upon payment of P50.00 which is non-refundable**, presentation of original Certificate of Accreditation and supplier's number (DCE). **Last day of issuance of bidding documents **March 21, 2001**.

Issuance of accreditation forms and bidding documents **mornings only, 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM**. For inquiries please call no. 921-25-74.

The Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any defect therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the Corporation.

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
NPC-OBC (Head Office)
Diliman, Quezon City

(PDI – Mar. 7,8 & 9, 2001)

PHILIPPINE CARABAO CENTER
Department of Agriculture

Headquarters and Gene Pool
Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines 3120
FAX: 63 (044) 456-0730
Tel: 63 (044) 456 0731 to 34
E-mail pcc-oed@[illegible]

Manila Liaison Office
5F DCIEC Bldg, NIA Cmpd., EDSA,
Quezon City, Philippines [illegible]
Tel/FAX 63 (2) 921 3863
63 (2) 926 7707
E-mail [illegible]

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The Philippine Carabao Center invites interested suppliers to pre-qualify and to bid for the supply and delivery of:

Artificial Insemination Supplies
Veterinary Drugs and
Veterinary Laboratory Supplies

Pre-qualification requirements can be secured from Mr. Ronaldo A. Sadural Property Section, Philippine Carabao Center National Genepool & Headquarters CLSU Compound Muñoz Nueva Ecija and Rogel De La Cuesta, Philippine Carabao Center Manila Liaison Office located at 5th Floor DCIEC Bldg., NIA Cmpd., EDSA Quezon City starting on March 12, 2001. Last day of submission of pre-qualification documents will be on March 15, 2001.

Only those who submitted pre-qualification documents are allowed to attend the pre-bidding conference on March 19, 2001, 10:00 A.M. at the PCC Manila Liaison Office at 5th Floor DCIEC Bldg., NIA Cmpd., EDSA Quezon City. Those who failed to attend the pre-bidding conference are disqualified to participate in the bidding.

Sealed bids shall be received by the PCC Manila Liaison Office not later than March 26, 2001, 10:00 A.M. at the same address. Only pre-qualified bidders will be allowed to attend the bidding proper.

The Philippine Carabao Center reserves the right to reject any of all bids, waive any formality in such bids, and to accept bids as may be considered most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **LIBERTADO C. CRUZ**
Executive Director

Carabao Development Assures Rural Families Advancement thru Better and Accelerated Socio-economic Opportunities

(PDI--March 9 & 10, 2001)

INQUIRER
TRiViA
By BONG BARRAMEDA

Sex sides

Q. If the female side of a family or group is called the distaff side, what's the term for the male side?

A. The spear side. A distaff was a stick with a cleft end, used to hold the flax or wool from which a woman spun thread in olden times. The distaff was considered a woman's tool, while the spear was a man's.

For the Record. The sex of the unborn child is determined at the instant of fertilization, and it is the father's sperm cell that decides it. Every ovum, or egg, that a woman produces is female in the sense that it contains an X, or a female, sex chromosome. In a man, only half of the sperm cells carry an X chromosome, while the other half carry a Y, which is the male sex chromosome. If an X sperm cell happens to enter the Y ovum, the result is a fertilized egg with two X chromosomes that will become a girl. If, however, a Y sperm cell fertilizes the egg, the result is a fertilized egg that has one X chromosome and one Y chromosome, and that will become a boy.

First of All. The first bedrooms on record appeard in the royal palaces at Sumer (an ancient region in Southwest Asia) about 3500 B.C. One significant fact about ancient Sumerian bedrooms is that there was usually only one to a home, regardless of the immensity of the residence and the number of its inhabitants. The head of the household occupied the bedroom and its bed, while his wife, children, servants, and guests slept around the house, on couches, lounges, or the floor. Pillows existed for everyone, but they were hard, curved headrests of wood, ivory, alabaster, intended primarily to protect a styled hairdo overnight.

WORD WATCH

Kutson : a Tagalog corruption of the Spanish *colchon*, 'mattress.'

PDI--March 9, 2001

ANNOUNCEMENT

Please be informed of our new classified advertising rates effective **February 1, 2001 issue**.

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS
(National Edition)

Box Ad	- P230.00/col. cm.
Line Ad	- P 65.00/line
Obituaries	- P230.00/col. cm.

JOB MARKET
(Metro Manila Edition)
Box Ad - P190.00/col. cm.

Color Surcharge for NC and JM

1 spot color	- 30%
2 spot color	- 60%
Full color	- 80%

CLASSIFIED ASSETS
Box Ad - P190.00/col. cm.
- No color surcharge

* Rates are VAT exclusive

NOTICE
Change in Corporate Name

Notice is hereby given to the general public that the corporate name of Mandapat-Yaranon (MY) Builders Corp a corporation duly registered with SEC-Baguio Reg. No. BS095-000051 has been amended as of January 22, 2001 to:

CAL-PHIL BUILDERS & MANAGEMENT
(PHILIPPINES) CORPORATION
36 Military Cut-Off, Baguio City

Please be guided accordingly.

Federico J. Mandapat, Jr.
Corporate Secretary

(PDI – Mar. 9, 2001)

Your connection to better people, better jobs
JOB ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

In the Matter of the
Adoption Petition of
BILLY J. VOSSLER
Adopting Parent

Case No. 00AD00295
CITATION TO APPEAR

The People of the State of California
To **RODELIO DELA FUENTE**:

By order of this Court, you are hereby cited and required to appear before Department 124 of the above-entitled Court on June 4, 2001 at 8:30 a.m. then and there to show cause, if any you have, why **JAN BENIGNO DELA FUENTE** and **MARK CHRISTIAN DELA FUENTE**, minors should not be declared free from your parental control according to the petition on file herein to free the minors for adoption.

The address of the Court is: 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento, California 95826.

For a failure without reasonable cause to appear and abide by the order of the Court, you will be deemed guilty of a contempt of Court.

The following information concerns rights and procedures which related to this proceeding for the termination of custody and control of **JAN BENIGNO DELA FUENTE** and **MARK CHRISTIAN DELA FUENTE**, as set forth in Sections 78670-7864 of the Family Code.

(1) At the beginning of the proceeding the Court will consider whether or not the interest of **JAN BENIGNO DELA FUENTE** and **MARK CHRISTIAN DELA FUENTE**, require the appointment of counsel. If the Court finds that the interest of **JAN BENIGNO DELA FUENTE** and **MARK CHRISTIAN DELA FUENTE** do require such protection, the Court will appoint counsel to represent them, whether or not they are able to afford counsel. **JAN BENIGNO DELA FUENTE** and **MARK CHRISTIAN DELA FUENTE**, will not be present in Court unless they so request or the Court so orders.

(2) If a parent of **JAN BENIGNO DELA FUENTE** and **MARK CHRISTIAN DELA FUENTE**, appears without counsel and is unable to afford counsel, the Court must appoint counsel for the parent, unless the parent knowingly and intelligently waives the right to be represented by counsel. The Court will not appoint the same counsel to represent both **JAN BENIGNO DELA FUENTE** and **MARK CHRISTIAN DELA FUENTE** and their parent.

(3) The Court may appoint either the public defender or private counsel. If private counsel is appointed, he or she will receive a reasonable sum for compensation and expenses, the amount of which will be determined by the Court. That amount must be paid by the real parties in interest, but not by the minors, in such proportions as the Court believes to be just. If, however, the Court finds that any of the real parties in interest cannot afford counsel, the amount will be paid by the County.

(4) The Court may continue the proceeding for not more than thirty (30) days as necessary to appoint counsel and to enable counsel to become acquainted with the case.

DATED: February 1, 2001

By: (Sgd.) F.M. Stevenson
Deputy Clerk

(PDI--Feb. 23, Mar. 2 & 9, 2001)

ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

People, Events & Products

E-MAIL: aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph
sprojects@inquirer.com.ph

STI announces partnership with GUA

STI, the country's largest network of information technology colleges and education centers, has formally announced its partnership with the Global University Alliance (GUA) during a short seminar on E-Learning in Makati recently.

The partnership is a first of its kind between the Philippines' largest provider of IT specialists and GUA, a worldwide network of 10 accredited international universities that specializes in high quality online educational programs using easy-to-access interactive Web and data-based technologies.

GUA programs offer a unique, highly flexible learning experience with an exciting online global community of students and distinguished academics – a community that in turn forms links with industry and employer networks worldwide.

The 10 universities comprising the GUA alliance are: Athabasca University (Canada); Auckland University of Technology (New Zealand); University of South Australia; Rochester Institute of Technology (United States); International Business School-Hogeschool Brabant (Netherlands); George Washington University (United States); University of Glamorgan (UK); RMIT University (Australia); University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, and the University of Derby (UK).

STI president and COO Chito B. Salazar welcomed the partnership in a speech, saying that it is a strategic venture that will put STI and its programs into the forefront of the global information technology traffic.

The partnership comes at a time when STI is positioning itself as a global IT player. As a GUA associate, STI will have a wider audience and reach in which to influence trends and future leaders of IT, which is consistent with STI's original vision of giving quality and world-class computer education to as many Filipinos as possible.

The partnership with GUA is one of many strategic moves STI has unveiled to strengthen its position as the country's premiere information technology educator. Last year, it achieved another first when it launched the country's first comprehensive e-commerce program, pre-empting by several months the formal signing of the E-Commerce Law.

PETNET TAPS BPI NETWORK

Three-year old Petnet, fast-rising money transfer company, made waves when it linked two 150-year-old institutions, Western Union Financial Services International and the Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) to provide fast, safe and reliable money transfer service to Filipinos. The strategic partnership was cemented in a contract signing at the Manila Golf Club with Richard Tynes, Western Union area chair and Aurelio Montinola III, BPI senior vice president shaking hands on it. Looking on are (from left) Anthony Lehman, Petnet president; Adrian Ocampo, Petnet chair and CEO and BPI officers Caridad Ibarra and Cesareo de Leon.

DIRECT LINK WINNER

Jocelyn Y. Daos (inset) is the lucky winner of the "Your Direct Link to Singapore" raffle by Direct Link Car Insurance. Daos was awarded a trip for two to Singapore. The draw was recently held at the Direct Link head office in Makati. Present during the event were (from left) Naven Quemado, account servicer at Direct Link; Gregorio Poblador, general manager of Direct Link; Julie Young, associate from Sycip, Gorres and Velayo; and Thelma Domingo, accounts supervisor from MGM advertising. Daos got her chance to participate by calling in for a free, no-obligation quote from Direct Link. Her lucky quotation number (quote number 10033902) with a premium of P10,250.57 was for her Honda City EXi automatic. Direct Link plans to hold similar raffles in the coming months. Direct Link (25th floor Chatham House Condominium, Valero corner Herrera Sts., Makati) is the only car insurance company of its kind to offer value insurance and big savings on premiums through the phone. Call 887-2588 or toll free 1-800 LINK/5465 anywhere from the Philippines.

BITS & Clips

Sotogrande launching

Sta. Lucia Realty & Development will launch its new residential project in Bgy. Asisan, Tagaytay City (along the national highway). The new project, Sotogrande Residential Estates, is a 21-hectare self-contained residential estate that integrates a spectacular landscape of trees to create a "green community". Sotogrande Residential Estates will be inaugurated on Sunday, March 11. For inquiries, call Orchard Property Marketing Corp. at 638-4260 or 636-5884 to 85, or visit its office at unit 707 West Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Centre, Exchange Road, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City. Visit their website at www.orchardproperty.com.ph

Citibank's exclusive sale

Citibank credit cards is staging a Warehouse Sale on March 11-14 at the Ballroom of the Dusit Hotel Nikko in Makati City. Open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Citibank credit card holders can enjoy as much as 80 percent discount on a range of items. Quality merchandise is offered, as well as home furniture and kitchen appliances from various reputable dealers and manufacturers.

102 Dalmatians on the Web

Check out www.alpo102.com—the hottest and coolest site on the Web. This site gives you instant fun at the click of the mouse. The site promotes Friskies Alpo's ongoing 102 Dalmatians promo that runs from Feb. 10-March 9. Get free cuddly 102 Dalmatians plush toy or a beautifully crafted 102 Dalmatians dog bowl when you buy Alpo Digestion Plus.

Grad party food from AMC

Learn how to prepare delicious treats for graduation parties at "Graduation Party Treats" by AMC, the world's number 1 stainless steel cookware, on March 10, 1 to 3 p.m. at the AMC head office in Malate, Manila. AMC chefs whip up dishes minus the oil, calories and unwanted fats. For inquiries, call 523-2136 or 523-2367 or visit the Healing-AMC office at the ground floor of Shalimar Building, Pablo Ocampo Street (formerly Vito Cruz), Malate, Manila. Look for Angie or Sheila.

Banbros' free Matrox RT2000 seminar

Banbros Commercial Inc., a distributor of quality computer parts and components, will conduct a free seminar, "DV Power At Your Fingertips," featuring the new Matrox RT2000 editing solution today, from 9:30 to 1 p.m. at the Rizal Ballroom B of the Shangri-La Hotel, Makati. Videographers would know the advantages of using Matrox RT2000 in video editing, such as "no rendering" innovations, vis-à-vis other competing products. Interested parties can call Marcomgrafix at 895-7061 to 70 local 124 and 419-6442.

San Beda Chorale's homecoming concert

SAN BEDA College Chorale will hold a homecoming today at 7 p.m. at the Abbey of Our Lady of Monserrat in San Beda. Dubbed "Music and Beyond," the concert will feature the roaring Red Lions. The College Chorale, founded in 1965, is composed of students from the different courses of the college. Its repertoire ranges from baroque to contemporary music, international and national folksongs and popular music. Conducted by Patrick Frias, a Chorale alumnus, the group is the first Philippine male choir to venture on a world concert tour and the most awarded male choral group in the country. Contact or email the group at jon2x@dof.gov.ph

Public seminar features US educators

FISHBACK

PROMINENT educators from 12 elite American colleges will be featured in a free public seminar on educational prospects in the United States on March 21, 6 to 9 p.m. at the Aim Acceed Center (SGV Ballroom), Greenbelt, Makati City. Mervyn Fishback, former president of Biola University in the United States, will conduct the seminar followed on March 22, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., by interview sessions by visiting American admission directors. Interviews will be held at the electronic library, second floor, Aim Acceed Center. Reservations for the seminar may be made by calling Inter-Ed at 819-1001, 819-1002 or email intered@info.com.ph or checking www.inter-ed.com

ONE TOUCH 300

ALCATEL
28-09
Alcatel

ALCATEL

OK

Cool, colorful, clever. How did you ever live without it?

Hands-Free SpeakerPhone

HANDS FREE

Now you can do two things at once. With the hassle-free, hands-free speakerphone function, you can talk with ease even when you're on the go. And when you're ready for some fun, the built-in Games are guaranteed to keep you entertained.

Predictive Text Input

PREDICTIVE TEXT INPUT

Send a message pronto! With Predictive Text Input, Text Messaging is a breeze. Just use the simplified text entry function to quickly type and transmit your messages. And with the ten Text Message templates, just fill in the blanks to send them even faster.

Vibrating System

VIBRATING SYSTEM

Expecting an urgent call but don't want to disturb those around you? Whether it's in class or at the movies, switch to Vibration Mode to receive your calls quietly. No more distractions! And if you want to get creative, check out the Customizable Ringing Tones to get that personalized ringing touch for your phone.

Go ahead. Make it your personal secretary. Because with the convenient built-in calculator, clock, alarm, and currency converter, you can do your math homework and still make all those important dates! There's never a dull moment with your One Touch™ 300.

MARGIE QUIMPO-ESPINO, Business Features Editor

Promos: Creating an image and making brands stand out

ONE of the biggest challenges that face aggressive companies today is how to create an image for themselves that will make their brand stand out from the rest, and improve their brand equity as a whole.

Brand equity, according to author David A. Aaker in his book "Managing Brand Equity (The Free Press, 1991)," is a "set of assets such as name awareness, loyal customers, perceived quality, and associations that are linked to the brand and add value to the product or service being offered."

And one sure way to do just that, as most companies have discovered, is to appeal to their consumers' basic desire for material things, and more than this, to entice them with thoughts of success, winning and achievement.

William Arthur Ward once said, "If you can imagine it, you can achieve it. If you can dream it, you can become it." Indeed, ambition and aspiration, craving and longing, are concepts akin to human nature. The desire to have more in life, the urge to achieve that which is hard to achieve, these are behaviors that are not quite foreign to anyone.

This is bait that most people, most consumers, would not mind biting into. And bait that most companies in the Philippines today choose to dangle in front of their consumers' hungry eyes.

Of all the marketing activities that abound and are available for brands to undertake to increase

PROMOS/ C2

DEL ROSARIO

Condotel turns pro-active to lure market

By Doris C. Dumlao

HOW does one sell hotel space in the Philippines when the industry is reeling from an image problem caused by the Mindanao hostage-taking crisis, the spate of bombings, political crisis of recent past and glut in hotel rooms?

MARKETING STRATEGY

Century International Hotels director for sales and marketing Claire del Rosario, who handles the group's Citadel and Primetown condominium hotels (condotels) in Makati, says this is where "pro active" marketing comes in.

"While we develop or improve our product, the hotel, we identify future needs of companies based on their current activities. In other words, the hotel does not wait for a phone call from a client," Del Rosario says.

Del Rosario says this marketing approach partly explains how the Century sales and marketing team was able to fill 70 percent of the available rooms at the Citadel and Primetown condotels despite the estimated 25-percent market contraction since the Asian crisis.

The Century group, which pioneered the condotel concept in Makati in 1994, has not let the looming crisis in the country deter it from expanding its market.

With business confidence in the Philippines now picking up following the recent change in political leadership, Del Rosario is confident that the marketing strategies already in place would bring about even better results in the near future.

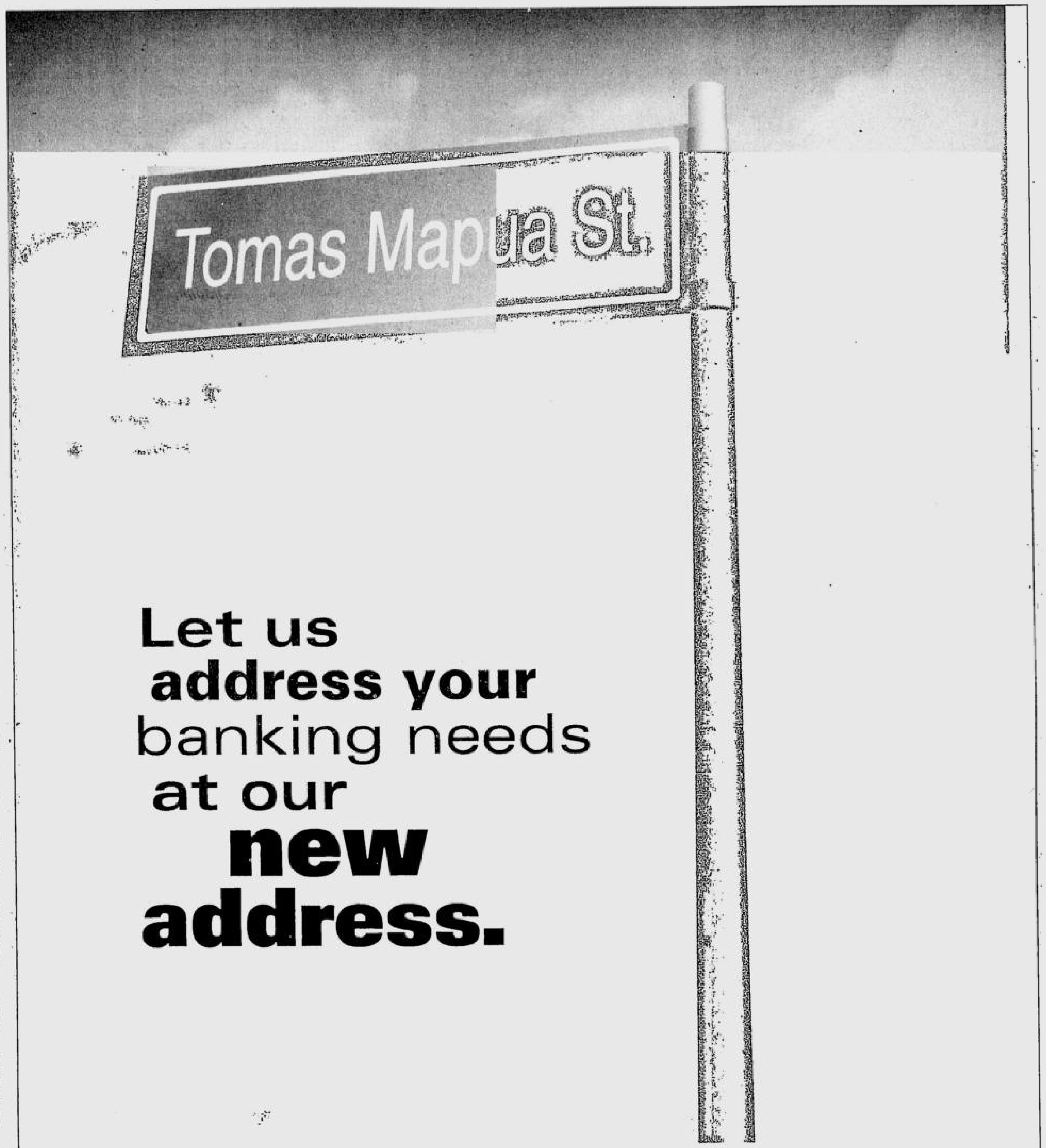
"First you identify which segments will likely help you in terms of revenue. Corporate clients used to account for the bulk of our sales but when the crisis came, many of these clients stopped booking hotel rooms. We then diverted into developing more of our local market," Del Rosario says.

"But the good thing about being part of an international hotel chain like Century is that you have international networking. Even when I am very much focused on the local scene, there's support in Hong Kong and Singapore," she says.

"Even if you don't go to Singapore for sales call, for example, you have a dedicated person there who will represent you at all times. The international affiliation supports a lot," she explains.

The market niche of Citadel and Primetown, Del Rosario notes, consists of budget-conscious clientele, mostly corporate groups that have had

CONDOTEL/ C7



Let us address your banking needs at our new address.

The strength of Malaysia's largest banking group and one of Asia's top 20 banks is now closer to your home or office as Maybank moves its Binondo branch to a new location:

Binondo branch
LPL Bldg., No. 629 Tomas Mapua St., Binondo, Manila
Tel. Nos. 734-3997 to 98 • 734-0509

Richard Lim
Branch Manager

We made our branch more accessible to bring our extensive line of products and services closer to you. Visit our Binondo branch's new home — just one of our 24 branches in Metro Manila. We look forward to be of service to you soon.

For inquiries on Maybank's products and services, call 521-7451.

Maybank
Best Domestic Bank in Malaysia
Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2000.

MEGALINK Member PDIC. Deposits Insured up to P100,000

Ano?! Wala ka pang Direct Link?
Find out what Direct Link's all about!
Log on to www.dirlink.net
Call 88-725-88 or Toll Free 1800-1888-LINK(5465) anywhere from the Philippines

GET YOUR FREE NO-OBLIGATION QUOTE TODAY!
Also get a chance to win a FREE trip for two to SINGAPORE!
Hear about CONVENIENT, AFFORDABLE and RELIABLE car insurance and as much as 50% savings on your premiums. Plus FREE 24-hour roadside and accident assistance, with 24-hour towing and ambulance services from Direct Link's partnership with the Philippine Motor Association!

A joint venture of UCPB Group & Crowe Insurance Group of London
direct link CAR INSURANCE

The Maybank Premier Account
Checking account convenience for as high as 8% interest p.a.!
Free insurance of up to P500,000!
MEGALINK Member PDIC. Deposits Insured up to P100,000

Maybank
Best Domestic Bank in Malaysia
Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2000.
Visit any of Maybank's over 50 branches nationwide or call 521-7451.

Updated rules on sale of principal residence

BY JOY MARIA SOCORRO B. PAMINTUAN
SGV & Co.

TAX-FILES

FOR citizens or resident aliens planning to sell their principal residence to acquire or construct a new one, here are some reminders.

First, the sale is generally subject to capital gains tax (CGT). Capital gains are presumed to have been realized from the sale, exchange or other disposition by an individual, including estates and trusts, of real property located in the Philippines and classified as a capital asset.

Under Section 24 (D) (1) of the Tax Code, CGT is pegged at 6 percent of either the gross selling price or fair market value, whichever is higher.

Second, it is possible to be exempt from CGT if the proceeds of the sale is fully utilized in acquiring or constructing a new principal residence within 18 months from the date of the sale or disposition.

Before anything else, therefore, you must determine if the property you intend to sell is legally classified as a principal residence; otherwise, the exemption would not apply. Unfortunately, the Tax Code has no definition of *principal residence*.

Revenue Regulations No. 13-99, dated July 26, 1999, has plugged this hole in the law by defining principal residence as "the dwelling house, including the land on which it is situated, where the husband and wife or an unmarried individual, whether or not qualified as head of family, and members of his family reside.

Actual occupancy of such principal residence will not be considered interrupted or abandoned by reason of the individual's temporary absence due to travel or studies or work abroad or such other similar circumstances.

The principal residence must be characterized by permanency in that it must be the dwelling house to which, whenever absent, the individual intends to return.

Revenue Regulations No. 14-2000 issued just last Nov. 20, 2000 further expanded this definition by making a distinction in cases where there is a divergence in the ownership of the house and of the land on which it stands, and in cases where the house and lot are owned by several co-owners.

In the first case, as when the land is merely being leased by the owner of the house, only the house will be treated as principal residence, even when the land and house are sold jointly by their owners.

If they happen to reside in the same house, as in the case of parents who may own the land and their children who may own the house, or vice versa, then both house and lot will be deemed as their principal residence, the sale of which may be exempt from CGT.

In the second scenario, if the land and the house are co-owned, say, by two or more heirs through hereditary succession, the properties will be treated as principal residence of the co-owner/s, including the members of his/their families, actually occupying and using the property as his/their permanent residence.

The exemption will apply to the co-owner/s using and occupying the property as his/their permanent residence but only to the extent of his/their proportionate share in the value of the property.

The distinction seeks to address situations where the privilege of exemption may be the subject of abuse by simply claiming that the house and lot to be sold is a principal residence although the real owner(s) are already residing in another part of the country or abroad.

An interesting amendment to these conditions was introduced in the latest Regulations. This pertains to the execution of an escrow agreement between the revenue district officer (RDO), the seller/transferor, and the authorized agent bank (AAB).

The 6-percent CGT otherwise due on the presumed capital gains shall be deposited in cash or manager's check in an interest-bearing account with the AAB with the understanding that the payment, including the interest, shall only be released to the seller/transferor upon certification by the RDO that the proceeds have, in fact, been used to purchase or construct the seller/transferor's new principal residence within 18 months from the date of the initial sale or disposition, i.e., the date of notarization of the transfer document.

Apparently, the execution of the escrow agreement as a new requirement is patterned after the US tax regulations to ensure compliance with the primordial condition for exemption from CGT, i.e., that the proceeds of the sale will be used to purchase or construct a new principal residence.

Requirements for exemption

Section 3 of Rev. Regs. No. 13-99 requires the submission of the documents to support the application for exemption from CGT or income tax in case the principal residence is intended to be sold:

(1) Sworn Declaration Requirement.—He shall submit a sworn declaration of his intent to avail of the tax exemption which shall be filed with the RDO having jurisdiction over the location of the principal residence within 30 days from the date of its sale, exchange or dis-

UPDATED/ C4

Promos: Creating an image and making brands stand out

(From page C1)

brand equity, holding raffles is by far the most popular marketing activity in the Philippines today.

Raffle schemes offering huge prizes and generous rewards never fail to attract people in general. They never fail to appeal to man's innate desire for material things, and always manage to make people buy, acquire or pay for products or services—when there is even the slimmest chance of winning whatever prize there is.

Of course, the mere thought of gaining something without shelling out a single centavo is exciting enough for a consumer, owing to the childlike thrill of winning, but as most consumers would think, it wouldn't hurt to have a bigger prize to yearn for. So they consume, they buy, and as the value of raffle prizes go up, the willingness to spend also goes up.

According to Ronald B. Bibonia, first vice president for business development of Diners Club International, the world's first credit card, "The bigger the prize, the easier it is to persuade people to participate in a raffle, even if they have to buy more units of a particular product to enter. Even in a raffle promo or any other kind of promo, customers always go for value."

Nowhere is the popularity of promos more evident than in the Philippines, where people would tirelessly collect scrap boxes of powdered milk and discarded noodle pouches, write their contact information on them, drop these entries into drop boxes, and ceaselessly pray to the high heavens that among thousands and thousands of entries, theirs would be the lucky chosen one.

On a broader view, there are a number of reasons why promos are such a hit in the Philippines. First, companies realize the marketing potential of this activity, put a premium on these promos and raffles, and support them with advertising and collateral budget.

Bottling companies for instance stop at nothing when it comes to advertising and promoting their numerous promotions.

Second, it is undeniable that the economic situation in the country is not as good as it should ideally be. People will not hesitate to keep, collect and then send as entries wrappers and boxes of consumer products if it means having a crack at winning the jackpot.

Zest-O Corp.'s recently concluded "Doble Milyonaryo" promo is a good example. Thousands of QuickChow noodle wrappers and Beam toothpaste boxes were sent in, and one lucky consumer took home the grand prize of P2 million, an amount more than enough to turn a whole family's life around.

Third, the promise of prestige, power and luxury is something that is quite irresistible to most Filipinos, having acquired the taste for the good life through education, exposure to foreign culture, and mostly through the constant urging of mass media.

Lux, one of the leading shampoo brands in the market today, is currently promising to make its consumers "feel like stars" through its "Live A Star Weekend" promo.

All these factors combined make a good promo a potentially successful one. One ongoing promo that follows these criteria is the "Free Card, Free Ride" promo of Diners Club International AE, where every cardholder who charges P500 worth of purchases to their Diners Club AE card gets a raffle number and a chance of winning the one major prize, the 2001 Ford Explorer Sport Trac.

Advertising is used to support this promo; there is also the attraction of winning the most luxurious SUV in the market, the ultimate status symbol of a good, lavish lifestyle that everyone yearns for.

In essence, holding a promo is an excellent way for a company to further enhance and strengthen brand equity and maintain market leadership. But more importantly, holding a promo conveys to the consumers the message that the company does care for them, and that it is assisting them in any way that the company can, including helping them reach for their aspirations and dreams.

Basically, it is one of the most effective ways of building a productive and lasting relationship with a company's consumer base.

generation @ business

START SMALL, THINK BIG!
GET A SMALL BUSINESS PACKAGE
AND SAVE UP TO P55,000

Plus save 30% on MYOB Accounting and Inventory Software

Take your business to the big league with IBM's small business package. It consists of an IBM @server xSeries 200, 5 IBM PC300 computers, cables and connectors for only P326,000. What's more, you'll save 30% on your purchase of MYOB Accounting and Inventory Software. Certainly a worthwhile investment, especially since IBM's small business package is scalable. So it grows with you. Even if your business isn't small anymore.

CALL NOW AND ASK ABOUT SPECIAL FINANCING SCHEMES*

Small Business Package
IBM @server xSeries 200
Intel® Pentium® III processor 800MHz
128MB RAM
15" monitor
Microsoft Windows 2000 license
Free Norton Anti-Virus

5 units PC300
Intel® Celeron™ processor 566MHz
32MB
14" monitor
Windows 98
48X CDROM
10GB Ethernet
Free Norton Anti-Virus

Connectors and cables

Option: MYOB Premier License Accounting & Inventory Package (Philippine version VAT-enabled) at 30% off

P326,000

Starter Package
1 unit PC300
Intel® Celeron™ processor 566MHz
32MB
14" monitor
Windows 98
48X CDROM
10GB Ethernet
Free Norton Anti-Virus

Includes MYOB Accounting & Inventory Package (Philippine version VAT-enabled)

P45,900

IBM recommends Windows 2000 Professional for business

GET IT NOW
call 995-2426/1-800-1888-0426 (toll free)
ibm.com/ph
or contact an IBM Business Partner
(see listing below)

IBM

intel inside pentium®!!!

IT@WORK Tel No. 6342875 • Alsons Apti Tel No. 7506802 • Advanced Solutions Tel No 3383221 • Arlos IT Systems Tel No. 8191258 • Compulab Tel No. 7514800 local 29 • Computer Craft Tel No. 8993959 local 126 • Creative Computing Tel No. 8959507 • Digital Dimension Tel No. 8978591 local 20 • DPSI Tel No. 8901082 • InfoPro Tel No. 5519633 • Microbase Tel No. 8137602 local 119 • PC Craft Tel No. 8895569 • Productivity Tech Tel No. 8992092 • Questronix Tel No. 8134422 local 105 • Right Computer Tel No. 8129804 • Unison Tel No. 3745888 local 121 • Valueline Tel No. 4353149

*Financing is subject to credit approval and requires guarantee deposit of 20%. Package is fixed for 24 months. Prices are VAT-inclusive and subject to change without prior notice. IBM xSeries and the e-business logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation. Intel, the Intel Inside logo and Pentium are registered trademarks and Celeron is a trademark of Intel Corporation. ©2001 IBM Corporation. All rights reserved.

We pay you back the entire amount of principal at loan maturity. Now available in 15, 20, 25 and 30 year terms.

Turn your home loan wish list into a reality.

- ✓ *Affordable payment term of your choice!*
- ✓ *Manageable! No Principal Payments for the first 5 years!*

Home Free... only at PSBank

Transfer your current housing loan to PSBank and enjoy 1% less on your current loan interest rate for the first quarter. Handling and application fees waived. Conditions apply. Offer runs from March 5 to May 31, 2001.

PSB Home Free

Make it happen.

Hurry! Call us at Tel. No. **843 2038** locals **8404** to **8414** or visit your nearest PSBank branch.

FAX or mail this coupon to:
PSBank Mortgage Banking Division
9/F PSBank Tower, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave.
cor. Tindalo St., Makati City
Fax: 845 0009 and **888 5196**

Name: ____________________

Contact Number: ____________________

Address: ____________________

Publication where this ad appeared: ____________________

Home Free is initially available in Luzon and Metro Manila

PSBank
PHILIPPINE SAVINGS BANK
A METROBANK SUBSIDIARY

Working harder for you.

PSBank Tower, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Tindalo St., Makati City
Tel. 843 2038 • Fax 845 0004, 845 0051

BancNet Member PDIC. Deposits Insured up to P100,000.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0277 Series of 2001.

Women cash in on cashew nuts

By Maya A. Santiano

STEADY demand for nut keeps micro businesses going.

HOW DOES one resist a bag of kasuy? One does not. One yields and enjoys its mouth watering taste till the bag is empty.

This is rather the story of a group of women in Barangay Lumbia in Cagayan de Oro who processes the nuts, a lady engineer who organized them, and a government agency who helped them with technical assistance and funding. Now they produce cashew nuts of world-class quality.

First, a few facts about this nut. The cashew (*Ancardium occidentale*, known too in the vernacular as *balubad*) is a fast growing multi-purpose tree of the Amazon that thrives on dry sandy soils in the central plain of Brazil. It grows up to 15 meters, has a thick trunk and leafy branches. Cashew harvest is from March to early June when the apple turns yellow or reddish and when the nut turns green to ash gray. The tree like the coconut is now considered a golden tree, because almost all its parts are used. The bark and leaves are medicinal. The shell has both medicinal and industrial uses. The cashew apple may be eaten like a fresh fruit, processed to fruit juice, or aged into wine. The tree may have been brought to our shores from Brazil through India, which is the world's top producer of raw and processed cashew nuts. In the Philippines, the major producer is Palawan, where cashew is referred to as Palawan gold. Other areas producing the nut are Central and Southern Luzon, Iloilo and Guimaras in Visayas, Bukidnon, Misamis Oriental, Davao and South Cotabato in Mindanao. Their combined output, however, is not enough to meet the local demand.

Women of Lumbia

Lumbia is the biggest barangay of Cagayan de Oro City (CDO) in Region X, Northern Mindanao. It has a land area of about 3,300 hectares (classified in 1990 as rural) and is the site of the CDO airport, just a little over an hour's flying time from Manila. Today, however, there are major developments in the area, between the city proper and the airport. There is a first class golf course, class A and B residential areas akin to that of Alabang. The Xavier University High School, a top of the line cemetery (the remains of the Cebu Pacific crash have been interred here), and a Shoemart complex under construction.

The story of the women "magkakasuy" in Lumbia dates back to the '70s. As in most barangays in the Philippines, the elementary school is one of Lumbia's most important social centers. However, few took notice of the hundred or so cashew trees lining the road of the school. Once every so often a passerby would pick up a handful of nuts, roast these at home and enjoy a delicious snack. No one thought of cashing in on these until the formation of the Barangay Rural Improvement Corps (BRIC). The BRIC encouraged the people to engage in income generating projects including a barangay pharmacy, basket weaving and cashew nut processing. The women active in the BRIC movement took charge of picking the seeds, roasting them and selling the nuts.

Processing the cashew nuts was simple enough. It involved:

- sun drying for a day or two
- splitting of the shells
- extraction of the kernel
- oven drying
- cooking
- picking: removal of the skin from the kernel
- packing in bags

The steady demand for the cashew nuts kept the micro businesses going. Several constraints however kept them a small industry. The constraints to growth were lack of capital, unhealthy competition among the women over the same market (the CDO airport) and price manipulation by those with sufficient capital to stock up on the nuts.

Woman who made a difference

Gloria Macainan-Garcia is not a native of Lumbia. She was born and bred in Bacolod City but sent to Manila for her college, graduating with a degree in chemical engineering, one of only three females in the batch. Certainly a woman ahead of her time, she enrolled at the Air Traffic Controllers Course at the Manila International Airport where she met Artemio Garcia. They got married and lived in CDO where he was assigned to the airport in Lumbia.

Gloria set up house in CDO, bore and raised four children, put up a convenience store near the airport and eventually engaged herself into processing of nata de coco, cashew nuts and banana chips. She also became a very influential member of the Lumbia community, a BRIC leader and a coop organizer.

Because Gloria's residence and store were just a stone's throw away from the airport, Gloria was aware of the plight of the women "magkakasuy" of Lumbia. "They fought over the customers, and were often forced by the security guards to leave the airport building for creating a commotion," she recalls. She wanted to help the women, unite them in their common endeavor as cashew producers and sellers. In February 1988, Gloria attended the National Conference of Women Cooperative Leaders in Cebu City organized by the National Confederation of Cooperatives (Natcco). The conference did not deal much with issues pertaining to cooperatives, rather it discussed women's marginalized position in the development process. The conference called for efforts to uplift the plight of women in coops, believing they also have the potential to become change agents in their community.

During the conference, Gloria reminisces, "I felt I could do something to empower these women." Back in CDO she asked the help of Mila Bagares, another BRIC leader, to organize the women "magkakasuy" to solve their problems and improve the quality of their lives.

Eight other women joined Gloria and Mila and formed themselves into a satellite self-help group of Oro Integrated Cooperative. The women discussed their problems, their needs, their hopes. Foremost was the need for more capital to expand their micro enterprise. Ma'am Gloria, as she became fondly called, worked out the details of the group's loan application with Oro Coop, one of the biggest coops in CDO. The group's first financial assistance was accessed through the Small Economic Assistance Project of Oro Coop, funded by the Philippine Business for Social Progress. Each woman received a P3,500 loan for buying more cashew nuts.

Coops need marketing savvy to let buyers in on their secrets

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

HOME-BASED workers' groups and cooperatives produce what is arguably the country's best coffee, wine, decorative products, baskets and processed food, but, unfortunately, only they know about it.

The prozblem lies in the lack of marketing savvy and business sense that would have been able to bring these world-class products to the main markets in Manila, Cebu or Davao or even markets abroad.

The bigger market would have, in turn, enabled these workers to upgrade their standard of living and earn enough to send their children to school and build a bigger house for themselves.

Lalawigan Inc., a newly organized group of former workers of non-government organizations, private individuals and a handful of urban poor, seeks to provide a solution to the age-old problem of these cooperatives and small and medium business enterprises in the countryside.

Lalawigan's vision is to be a center of entrepreneurship for the poor by increasing their awareness of running a business and employing marketing techniques to push their products.

Lalawigan president Gemma Cunanan tells the INQUIRER that years of experience in dealing with cooperatives taught her that they have been unable to bring their products across their borders because they were not encouraged to be entrepreneurial.

"NGOs try to help them but these tend to focus more on the social development side. I realized that the major reason why these organizations were not succeeding in transforming their members into successful entrepreneurs was that they lacked financial and business management skills," Cunanan says.

She attributes this to the NGO programs being more marketing than entrepreneurial and that the mind set advocated by the NGOs for the cooperative members were as workers and not as entrepreneurs.

"The focus of Lalawigan Inc. is really on the'capability-building of the urban poor members who come to the office not only to package but to participate in pricing, in cost management, product development and everything and anything that has to do with business management," Cunanan says.

"While before, they were merely packers, now they have a chance to start their own business. Because they were given hands-on training, the probability of success will hopefully be greater," she adds.

Lalawigan currently markets coffee produced by upland farmers from Tabuk, Kalinga, cacao from Magdalena, Sorsogon and fruit vinegar, sesame seed cookies from Zambales and wine from the Gregorio Araneta University Foundation.

They also help market the jute and burlap sacks as packaging materials from farmers in Bukidnon.

Cunanan says there are many other products that can be marketed here and abroad, ranging from agricultural products to processed food and handicrafts.

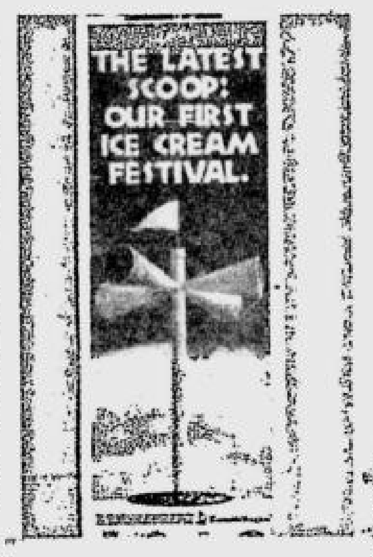
"There are indeed very good prospects for marketing these products but we need economies of scale for it to be successful. We are looking into the possibility of selling through supermarkets here so that the money can be used for more research and development effort," she adds.

Cunanan recommends that business organizations deal directly with these farm-based communities to inculcate a more business-like approach to developing their products. These will also help provide a ready market for the products of these communities as opposed to NGOs dealing with social development.

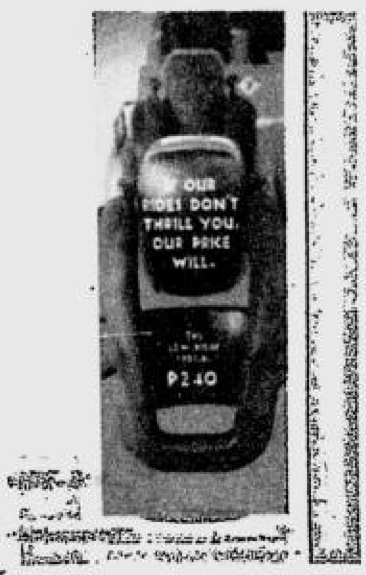
"The private sector will definitely be a big help to these communities. Large corporations, for instance, can allocate a portion of their funds from the foundations to help these communities. They can also help by patronizing products from these communities," she says.

What will hopefully happen, she says, is that the best products from the provinces can be enjoyed by people in the cities, instead of patronizing products from abroad.

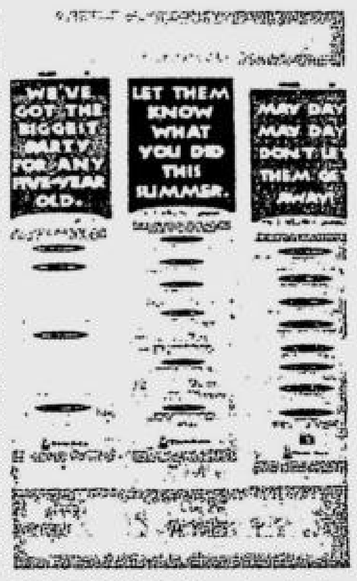
Local amusement park bags awards


THE LATEST SCOOP: OUR FIRST ICE CREAM FESTIVAL.

THE THREE-PART event ad for Enchanted Kingdom's "One Enchanted Summer" promo.


IF OUR RIDES DON'T THRILL YOU, OUR PRICE WILL.
P240

THE AWARD-WINNING ice cream festival print ad.


WE'VE GOT THE BIGGEST PARTY FOR ANY FIVE-YEAR OLD.
LET THEM KNOW WHAT YOU DID THIS SUMMER.
MAY DAY MAY DAY DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!

ENCHANTED Kingdom's low rider print ad.

THE INTERNATIONAL Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions recently cited Enchanted Kingdom for marketing excellence in the print and website categories.

Enchanted Kingdom bagged two first place trophies in the Brass Ring Awards 2000. The awards are given to companies that display originality, creativity and excellence in marketing among professionals in the amusement industry.

Enchanted Kingdom is the only theme park in Asia awarded in the competition.

The winning entry in the print advertising category is the "One Enchanted Summer" campaign, a series of print ads that communicate the world-class theme park's lineup of activities and promos.

On the other hand, the winning website (www.enchantedkingdom.-com.ph) is an informative yet entertaining user-friendly site for surfers who would like to get a genuine feel of the park. Using animation and music, EK's website is designed to enable visitors to enjoyably browse the park's features, services and amenities.

Aside from the two international citations, Enchanted Kingdom likewise received the Best Corporate Christmas Card 2000 award from the Philippine Convention and Visitors Corp. The Christmas card highlighted the park's biggest and newest ride, the Rio Grande Rapids.

The winning entries were developed by Ace Saatchi & Saatchi (print ads, Asia On Line (website), and Grass Graphic Inc. (Christmas card) as conceptualized and directed by Dennis N. Cruz, Enchanted Kingdom's VP for marketing and business development.

Updated rules on sale of principal residence

(From page C2)

position, including the following:

(a) Duly accomplished capital gains tax return (BIR Form No. 1706).

(b) Proof of payment of documentary stamp tax on conveyance of real property.

(c) A sworn statement from the barangay chairman or building administrator in the case of condominium unit, that his principal residence is located within the jurisdiction of that barangay and has been his residence as of the date of sale, exchange or disposition thereof.

(d) A duplicate original copy of the deed of conveyance of his principal residence.

(e) Photocopy of the transfer certificate of title (TCT) or condominium certificate of title (CCT), in case of a condominium unit (covering the principal residence sold, exchanged or disposed).

(f) Latest tax declaration of the said principal residence (land and improvement).

(2) Post Reporting Requirement.

(a) A sworn statement that the total proceeds from the sale of his old principal residence has been actually used in the acquisition or construction of his new principal residence or, if the construction of his new principal residence is still in progress, a sworn statement that the amount shall be fully utilized to procure the necessary materials and pay for the cost of labor and other expenses for the construction.

(b) A certified statement from his architect or engineer, or both, showing the cost of materials and labor for the construction of his new principal residence.

(c) A certified copy of the building permit issued by the Office of the Building Official of the city or municipality where his new principal residence shall be constructed, as well as photocopies of documents (e.g. building specification plan, construction plans, construction cost estimates) submitted with his application for said permit.

(d) In case his new principal residence is acquired by purchase, a duplicate original copy of the Deed of Absolute Sale covering the purchase of his new principal residence. The tax exemption may be availed of only once every 10 years. The historical cost or adjusted basis of his old principal residence sold, exchanged or disposed shall be carried over to the cost basis of his new principal residence.

The historical cost or adjusted cost basis of the real property sold or disposed will be carried over to the new principal residence built or acquired, and if there is no utilization of the proceeds of the sale or disposition, in full or in part within the 18-month period, the portion of the gain presumed to have been realized from the sale or disposition shall be subject to the CGT.

In computing the capital gains tax due on the sale of the principal residence, we follow the following steps:

(1) Determine the percentage (%) of non-utilization applying the formula:

Unutilized Portion of Gross Selling Price (GSP)=Percentage (%) of Non-Utilization GSP

(2) Multiply the % of non-utilization by the GSP or FMV, whichever is higher.

(3) Multiply the product in item (2) above by the rate of 6 percent.

The tax due shall immediately become due on the 31st day after the date of the sale, exchange or disposition of principal residence. As such, he shall file his capital gains tax return covering the sale, exchange or disposition of his principal residence and pay the deficiency capital gains tax inclusive of the 25-percent surcharge for late payment of the tax plus 20-percent delinquency interest per annum.

The interest shall be imposed from the 31st day after the date of the sale of principal residence until the date of payment, provided, that the date of sale shall mean the date of notarization of the document of sale, exchange, or disposition of principal residence.

HCG
BATHROOM FIXTURES
In Total Harmony with Your Lifestyle.
Elegante.
Perfecto.

Makati Office & Showroom: 1103 Chino Rocos Ave., Makati City
Tel. (632) 895-5683 • Fax (632) 895-2180

METRO MANILA: Ace Hardware (734-9516) • Belvedere Ent. (820-8044 to 47) • Ceramic Plaza (850-7698/372-4887) • Filhomes Builders (776-1050) • GS Go (521-1855) • Galaxy Cement Center (936-3452) • Handyman (416-7697) • Harcraft Ent. (733-7419) • Jernice Trading (240-4645) MC Home (893-3070) • MGS Corporation (543-3110) • Maxilite Merchandising (524-2043) • Megacom Construction (951-8987) • Milen Tile Center (930-3475) • Milwaukee Builders Center, Inc (776-1502) NFT General Merchandise (915-8954) • New Hi-Alonzo (733-0983) • Ortigas Hardware (631-4059) • Pedro's Construction Supply (733-7344) • RF Home Improvement Centre (673-0694) • Sogo Builders Supply (874-5351) • Tradewell Builders (455-6157 to 61) • Unisia Merchandising Co., Inc. (831-7953) • United Distributing Corp. (816-7093) • Wilcon Builders Supply (921-3342) • Wilson Home Depot (640-0286)

NORTH LUZON: Anros Builders (045 961-3790) • Archway (047 223-4444) • Bataan Commercial (047 244-4175) • Bendix Builders (045 961-2919) • CJF Home Builders Supply (075 536-2371) • Circa Builders (047 237-5977) • Filco Merchandising (075 522-2464) • Gerome Builders (044 711-0545) Hardware Plus (075 523-5429) • Hilcres Builders (045 322-8005) • Jude Co. Builders & Const. Supply (075 568-2877) • Jurolens Builders (075 522-0215) • LC Cons Corp (075 522-6777) • PFCO Builders Center (075 55 Supreme Builders (044 662-4538/073-0010) • T & T Home In

SOUTH LUZON: Viva Tile Center (054 473-0981) Tiles & Tilemates (046 436-1929) • St. Peter Hardware (0 (046 419-1687) • New Legaspi Enterprise (052 480-6299)

Petron gets Anvil

PETRON bags three Anvil awards. Petron Corp. won three major awards in the recently concluded 36th Anvil Awards by the Public Relations Society of the Philippines.

Petron received an Anvil Award for Excellence for public relations programs under the corporate umbrella program dubbed Volunteerism in Action.

Petron also won two Anvil Awards for Merit for its environmental awareness programs—Earth Day/Month celebration and Kontra-Kalat sa Dagat.

Touted as the "Oscars" of the public relations industry, the Anvil has become synonymous with the most respected and admired PR programs of corporations.

Showin in photo are Petron chair Jose A. Syjuco Jr. (third from left), Petron foundation executive director Malu G. Erni (2nd from elft), project officers Mattie Uylangco (extreme right) and Allan S. Victorino (extreme left).

Is the network you are joining an illegal pyramid?

NETWORK marketing is one of the world's fastest-growing methods of marketing and distribution of products. It is a billion-dollar industry growing at a rate of 10 to 15 percent per year. Today, there are an estimated 20 million people doing network marketing around the world.

Network marketing includes companies with multi-level, or MLM structures and even a few direct selling and retail companies. "Network Marketing" is the more progressive term used to describe this young and growing industry.

Although no precise figures exist (because most companies in the industry are privately held and are not required to publish their financial statements), experts believe network marketing is at a level of $25 billion in annual sales.

Misunderstood

John Fogg, editor of the industry magazine Upline, says network marketing is the next logical step in the evolution of the free enterprise system. Why? It combines two of the most powerful forces at work in the world today: networking and marketing.

Unfortunately, because of the success of this industry, a lot of dishonest and unscrupulous individuals are using network marketing for illegal and fast money-making schemes. That's why there are a lot of people who have negative opinions on network marketing. There are mostly those who have had an unfortunate experience of one kind or another. Others think network marketing is an illegal pyramiding scheme.

But as Dr. Dean Black, author of "The MLM Simple Success Guide" says, "There's nothing wrong with the principle, just with the way some people work with it."

What makes pyramiding illegal?

Because of the negative publicity generated as a result of these illegal pyramid schemes or what we know today as pyramid scams, the term pyramid or any structure that resembles a pyramid is now often misinterpreted as illegal.

What do we know about pyramids?

A pyramid is the most enduring physical structure we know of. With its broad foundation, a pyramid can grow to great heights and yet remain solid and stable. Black, again, in his booklet "The MLM Simple Success Guide," describes a pyramid as follows:

"Above a certain size, any organization that distributes products or services ends up shaped like a pyramid, with multiple levels that get bigger as you go down. Delegation creates a multi-level pyramid. Our government is also a multi-level pyramid. So are our schools and churches. All successful businesses, because they distribute products and services, end up shaped like a pyramid."

The truth is, it's not a question of whether or not something is structured like a pyramid. There is nothing inherently wrong with the pyramid structure. It is a question of value. And it's the lack of value that makes any business enterprise morally, ethically, or legally questionable.

When a business enterprise does not provide real value, whether it is conventional or multi-level, it's called a scam. A scam is a fraudulent business scheme or swindle.

So, a "pyramid" is actually a good method for distributing products and services while a "pyramid scam" is an illegal scheme disguised as a multi-level structure.

No matter what we call it, the law is clear. Network marketing is a legitimate and viable system of distribution and sales where independent individuals or groups earn commissions on the sales of products from a marketer to the end consumer. The one and only way to earn money in this business is from the sale of products.

As we have seen in the past, being paid for the mere act of recruiting is a scam, no matter what shape or form it's packaged in.

Choosing a legit company

The fundamental question that must be asked in every pyramid analysis is: "What must you do to earn a commission?" If a company pays you based on the recruitment of other people (headhunting) rather than for legitimate sales of products or services to end consumers, it is illegal pyramiding.

This rule appears straightforward, but its application can be difficult because most illegal pyramid operators are not so foolish as to blatantly pay a commission based on the recruitment or enrollment or membership payments of other participants.

Rather, they typically disguise the illegal program as a legitimate network marketing business by offering a product or service that is of no value or is grossly overpriced.

To summarize: If someone earns a commission from the registration/enrollment fee you would pay to join the company, more than likely it is illegal—people are being compensated on recruiting you as a member.

A legitimate network marketing company should pay out commissions based on the sale of products or services with value. Choose intelligently the right network marketing company for you—one with good products or services, management you respect and trust, and a solid business development program.

Scam online

Throughout the 1980s, as network marketing companies came and went, the global concept of network marketing developed and grew. It was refined through trial and error, success and failure.

Innovative products and new ways of doing business became more evident. Technology has always been a driving force behind the growth of the industry.

Technology really made a significant and tremendous impact on the network marketing industry in the 1990s when Internet technology made global marketing readily possible and affordable. Unfortunately, the Internet has also become a venue for a lot of illegal pyramiding activities.

In January 2000 alone, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) in the United States, in an ongoing sweep of pyramid scams on the Internet, have targeted over 600 Internet illegal pyramid sites for law enforcement action.

Several multilevel Internet websites and mall programs have been identified, and two are already facing legal challenges. In March 2000, KM.Net received a notice of intended action from the State of Michigan alleging that the program is an illegal pyramid.

In late April 2000, the State of Maine sued Bigsmart.com claiming that it too was an illegal pyramid. Both programs operate binary compensation plans, and grew very rapidly.

However, their problems did not rise from the binary plans. Rather, the fundamental flaw in the legality of Internet website and mall programs is that they are not paying commissions based on the sale of legitimate products and services.

Instead, they are paying commissions based on the sale of "malls" and websites that are nothing more than online sales aids.

Bigsmart.com, KM.net and other similar sites that have proliferated over the Internet offer individuals the opportunity to purchase one or more "mall" or websites that they also refer to as "business centers."

A "mall" or website is simply a portal or conduit through which independent merchants can sell their products. If a sale of products is made through the "mall" or website, the owner of the "mall" or website and his or her group of recruits are entitled to a commission.

In addition, a commission is paid based on the sale of each "mall" or website. KM.Net charges $399.95 per "mall" or website, and Bigsmart charges $249.95.

The payment of commissions for the sale of products through the "malls" or websites is not illegal. Rather, the legal problems arise when commissions are paid based on the sale of the "malls" or websites themselves. This is because "mall" or websites are not products or services that can be kept or held.

(Sourced and condensed from: 1. Network Marketing: The Greatest Opportunity in the History of the World by John Kalench; 2. www.mlmlaw.com "SalesWatch OnLine" by Spencer M. Reese)

Deciding on an MLM company

MORE and more people are considering Multi-Level Marketing (MLM) as a way to financial freedom. Evaluating the hundreds of MLM companies that exist to find the best match for you can be confusing.

When choosing an MLM company to work for, the product is often the first priority representatives evaluate, and it is often the easiest to assess. A good question to consider when rating the quality of a product is, "would people buy the product even if no direct sales income opportunity was also present?" The product is the fuel for the MLM company as well as the representative.

Criteria

MLM companies have a history of using three basic criteria for selecting a product that maximizes the changes for business success. In his book, "Direct Sales: An Overview," Keith B. Laggos, Ph.D., recommends the following criteria:

1. The product must be unique.
2. The product must be higher of quality than similar or competitive products that are available through other purchasing channels.
3. The product must be innovative.

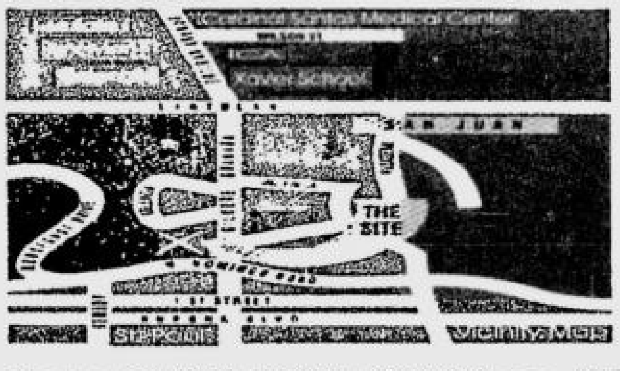
To be successfully marketed by the direct sales method, it is important that product meets at least one of these criteria. The more that the product meets these criteria, the more effective the product will be in the direct sales market. Adding a strong sales representative will give even more reliability to an already stable product reputation. The enthusiasm of the representative will excite others, so choose a product that you genuinely stand behind and trust so you can build this excitement. You should feel that the product is so beneficial that you would promote its use whether you were paid or not.

A genuine need or want must be met for the product to appeal to a broad base of consumers. Quality is also extremely important in a product line. Many products have high quality, but outrageous prices, which dramatically affect people's response to a product. When evaluating a product, you must also consider convenience, availability, delivery and timeliness.

Direct sales

Health and beauty products perform particularly well when marketed and sold through an MLM company. Because people are always concerned with health and beauty, new and innovative products are continuously being created to keep up with the interest and demand.

You will see that many companies sell similar products. The most competitive products in MLM companies are with management, skin care such as Nu Skin, hair care, and household products. Competition may intimidate some representatives; but in reality, there are so few quality opportunities that you are not really competing against other MLM companies, but rather for the growing overall market share. MLM companies with competitive products produce the most revenue and response from consumers. Do not be afraid of a competitive field if you have found a viable product to promote. By using this criterion, you can select a product that will exceed the products of the competitors.



RESIDENTIAL CONDOMINIUM

GARDEN ISLAND

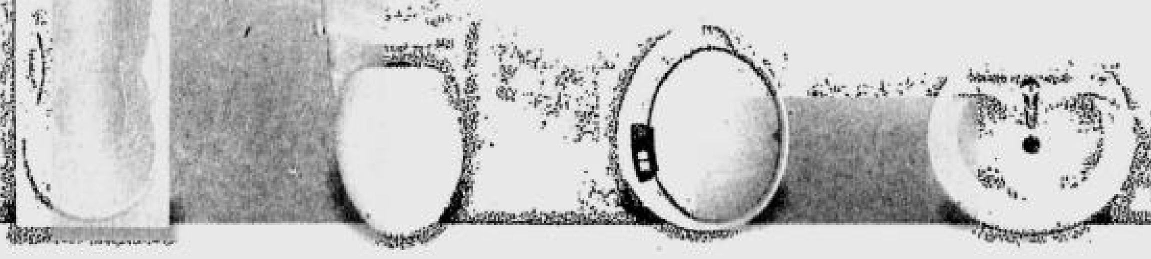
A luxurious design, lavish resort-style comfort and convenience found in every square meter of the GARDEN VIEW TOWER.

The best kept secret garden centerpiece that spreads over more than 3,000 square meters, beds with tropical blossoms burst wild with color on the thickest and lush carpet of bermuda grass.

A recreation center found at the building's ground floor and set amidst of south pacific backdrop with house facilities such as squash court, putting green, gym, spa, swimming pool with separate pool for adult & children, a one-of-a kind in-house kindergarten school with indoor & outdoor playground, billiard room, study room and a one stop convience store within the area.

SWIRE REALTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
#14 N. DOMINGO ST. NEW MANILA, QUEZON CITY

Tel : (632) 723-0566 to 71
Fax : (632) 726-1773
E-mail: info@swireland.com.ph



assico. Nuovo. Legato

A Serenade in Expressive Elegance.

Smooth. Flowing. Sensual curves. In motion. By design,
Legato is an Italian inspiration that brings harmony and romance to your bathroom pleasures.
*No wonder, it's a design masterpiece by Italy's best... **Nilo Gioacchini.***

uction (047 431-2091) • PFC Builders Center 014) • Philippine Topwood (072 412-007) provement Center (044 463-7439) (043 300-1655) • Homebase (046 470-5070) • Guamphil Builders (046 540-3650) • Empyrean Home Builders (046 970-3343) • Details Home Improvement (046 505-3744) • Dasma Citywide (049 418-2524) CPBS Home Improvement (043 778-1235) • Center Point Builders Supply (049 808-2851)

Ultima Ceramic Depot (049 832-0722) 373-6297) • New Man Enterprises Corp. Longway (048 875-7888) • JMT Marketing

VISAYAS: AM Trading (033 337-4265) • Cebu Oversea Hardware (032 254-4392) • Cebuano Construction Supply (032 346-2700) • Cocina y Baño (032 255-4255 to 58) • Decoarts (032 254-1326) Dy Home Builders, Inc. (034 433-6696) • G Cantillo (036 621-3728) • Multi L & A Enterprises, Inc. (033 7-8948) • New Cosmos Hardware (053 321-3170) • Rojoice Hardware and Electrical (035 225-1836)

MINDANAO: Citihardware (082 227-8842) • De Oro Pacific (088 856-1657) • Decoarts (082 295-1821) • Dimdi Builders Center (082 221-3311) • MM Marble (082 221-1749 to 51) Pacific Buildex (0882 272-1210)

HOCHENG PHILIPPINES CORPORATION

Restaurateur wants to grow without loans

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

FOR restaurateur Maritel O. Nievera, owner of the Cabalen chain of restaurants, the key to succeeding in business is professionalizing it no matter how small it may be; and personally keeping a keen eye on operations.

For her it is important to grow slowly but surely.

But after putting up seven branches of Cabalen, Nievera has decided to tap franchising as the means to propel her expansion. Her ultimate goal is to become the leader in the food industry that means establishing a presence all over the country.

And she intends to do this without borrowing from banks whom she believes charge unreasonable rates.

Nievera says in her 13 years in business, she only borrowed once, and that was while setting up the first branch of Cabalen in West Avenue in Quezon City.

After her first loan, she has opted to finance her expansions via internally generated cash.

"I don't believe in the structure of the interest rates. They are not friendly to Filipino borrowers. Most of the times it is only the banks who are earning," she notes.

Couple this with her conservatism, which she attributes to her being a woman, Nievera has sought another vehicle for expanding.

"I am very conservative. All of my expansions were covered by internally generated cash. I don't want to borrow," she says.

Franchising or giving other people licenses to own and run Cabalen restaurants would provide her the means to branch out faster.

She says she has already received a lot of inquiries and recently signed a deal with two young lady entrepreneurs to open a Cabalen outlet along Jupiter Avenue in Makati. She has two other franchises—one in The Brick Road of Sta. Lucia Mall that will open in April; and the one in SM City Manila, which is a joint venture.

AT SM City Manila, the ambience is created by nouveau art.

Interested entrepreneurs will have to shell out between P8 and P10 million to get a franchise for an outlet within a mall. A standalone restaurant, on the other hand, costs about P15 million.

The investment already covers everything and return on investment is expected between two and three years. (For inquiries call 911-1584.)

She is also building a corporate center in Quezon City which will house the Cabalen Management Co. Inc., the mother company which is composed of the support departments like human resources and training, sales and operations, marketing, business development, product and research, purchasing, administrative, maintenance and commissary departments.

Professionalizing

Since the opening of her second branch, Nievera has worked at professionalizing her company. This means working on the manuals that now govern âll aspects of the business. She says she hired an external consultant to do this.

Her management company was set up "so that even if my kids are not interested" the business will grow.

But her two sons appear interested. One is in charge of business development while the other is finishing studies on culinary arts.

But despite the presence of a management team, Nievera continues to be involved in the details of running her business. She believes this is important in maintaining the quality of the food and service that should attract the customers.

Business in the genes

One can say that business is in the Nieveras' genes. She grew up with a grandmother and a mother who "sell almost anything they touch."

Born and raised in Angeles City, her mother was then selling imported products from the former Clark Air Base. Nievera herself would get some imported chocolates from her mother's closet and sell these to her friends.

Her grandmother would bring her when she would sell goods or collect payments. In high school, Nievera would take the bus to Manila, buy goods that include underclothes and sell these to classmates and teachers.

Her goal was simple. "I wanted to succeed," she remembers saying.

Succeed she did. She set up Cabalen with a seed money of P2.5 million. The chain has now grown ten-fold since the 43-year-old went on her own 13 years ago and ventured into a business by herself.

Nievera married at 17 and shelved her dream to pursue the arts and designing and focused instead on helping her husband run a restaurant in San Fernando called Ituro Mo, Iluto Ko.

Nievera wanted to be a designer. But being a good wife she handled the operations of running a restaurant.

"I saw my husband's weaknesses in running the business so that is where I focused on. We also run it Chinese-style—we did not go out together and it was always one of us who was there for the opening or the closing," she recalls.

In between running the restaurant and motherhood, she pursued a degree in Commerce.

For six years, Nievera and her husband toiled in the restaurant and did well. Somewhere along the way, however, the relationship failed and they decided to part ways.

She went to Manila with her two sons and looked for a place to set up a restaurant. She found one in West Avenue, bought the property and built a restaurant. At that time the area was already full of restaurants that include Pinausukan, Manukan at Bakahan, but she wanted to provide something different.

"I made sure I was different in terms of price and quality. My menu featured Kapampangan specialty cuisine," she says.

Exports

It seems lady luck was on her side because Nievera says they were strong from day one.

MARITEL O. Nievera is an artist at heart. On the wall of her Katipunan Avenue branch is a mural by Manuel Baldemor.

She admits that an article by food critic Doreen Fernandez, which gave a favorable review of her restaurant, helped a lot in drawing customers. And when she realized the value of media, she tapped this medium to market her restaurant.

One area which Nievera is developing is the export of some of her products, in particular the Cabalen *bagoong*. She says she is already selling in the US and the Middle East. She is working at further expanding her market abroad and the product line for exports.

Nievera adds she will go into advertising when she reaches her 10th store.

She is also teaming up with Ricco Ocampo of Anonymous and The Kitchen to put up the first Filipino café to be called *Mangan* (to eat). The first outlet will be in Robinson's Galleria in Ermita, Manila. Specialty coffee will be served along with typical Filipino fare.

TIFFANY del Rosario knew she would always end up in the food business.

Do away with creating a brand by getting the franchise of one

TIFFANY del Rosario's family has always been in the food business so it was no surprise that she ended up in the same line.

When she and her fiancé (now husband) talked about what business to get into, food was their answer.

It was during a trip to the United States that they found what they wanted—a franchise of Subway, the sandwich chain that is the world's biggest franchisor with over 14,700 outlets worldwide.

She says they chose Subway because it is affordable and they like the food. She also adds that getting an established name in the food business takes away the need to establish a brand which costs money.

The Subway scheme in the Philippines is different from the usual franchise scheme where one person gets a franchise for an area.

Under the sandwich chain's system, all franchises are acquired from the United States. What they have in most countries are development agents.

Del Rosario is one such agent. Her task is to monitor the operations of the franchisees in the Philippines and market the franchise. She also pre-screens the prospective franchisees.

In effect she acts as a business consultant for Subway International BV. She helps in the processing of applications but payment of fees in the United States.

Del Rosario says the minimum capital to set up a Subway outlet, which may be a stand alone, or a stall in a mall, office, school, gas station, convenient store or hospital, is some P2 to P2.5 million depending on the chosen site.

The bigger ones cost some P4 million. The amount covers the franchising fee ($10,000), construction of the store, the design and the equipment needed.

Recovery of investments, according to Del Rosario, takes one to three years. Sales in an outlet range between P15,000 and a little under P100,000 a day.

Peak times would be summer.

The highest earning store of Subway is the one in Glorietta, which is also the first in the country.

To date, there are 21 Subway outlets, 13 of which are in Manila. The rest are in Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, Subic, Baguio and Tagaytay.

The goal is to have 66 stores by 2004. This means opening one store a month.

Del Rosario observes that most of the Subway franchisees are loyal customers.

In selecting them, Subway prefers hands-on entrepreneurs "who can dedicate time, quality time. The minimum is twice a week."

Del Rosario herself has four outlets. *Margie Q. Espino*

'CHINESE McDONALD'S'

Taiwan store makes Pinoys drink milk tea

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

BARELY a year after opening its first store at the busy university belt in Manila, Quickly (in Chinese Kuaikeli or Quick, Tasty and Instant) is proving to Filipinos why this Taiwanese fresh drink maker has been fondly called the "Chinese McDonald's."

Quickly opened its 50th branch this month and its taro ice is now a by-word among Filipinos from all walks of life. Quickly's next goal is to build 100 orange-and-blue stores nationwide, prodding more Filipinos to drink milk tea, and offer more products to include other snack items.

Quickly general manager Vangie Que-Ilagan says the Philippines has become one of Quickly's fastest growing areas in the region because of its aggressive expansion strategy anchored on a keen sense of the local landscape.

"The team which brought Quickly here did not plunge right into the market only because they had absolute faith in the product. The team did its homework first before going on a rapid expansion," says Que, who worked part-time as a Jollibee manager during her college days in the mid-1980s.

A motley group of seven friends and kin brought the Quickly franchise to the Philippines. But the team—only four actively participate in managing Quickly because the rest have their own businesses—had its misgivings when it sat down to plot the brand's development and marketing strategy in the Philippines.

Que says their main concern was how to get Filipinos to try their product line because Filipinos were not milk tea drinkers like other Asians and Europeans.

Fortunately, Que says, Zagu, the most popular pearl shake drink maker, was just reaching its peak when the group decided to come into the market.

"Zagu paid the 'enrollment fee' in starting the pearl shake craze which made it easier for us to convince Filipinos to try our product because we are different from the pack. Once they discovered our shakes, consumers tried our main product lines," she says.

Que stresses that Quickly uses puree and not powdered ingredients for its drinks and that it is just one of its five product lines which include blended ice, brewed ice tea, blended milk tea and tofu and pudding.

Unlike the pearl shake business, Que says Quickly is not a one-dimensional store.

"We currently have 70 product lines that consumers can mix into 150 to 200 combinations. And this is just one-fourth of what Quickly offers in Taiwan," she says.

Quickly is now in 15 countries worldwide, including the United States, Australia, Singapore, Japan, Thailand, Korea, Canada and China.

Despite the success of the Quickly franchise abroad, Que says the group also had some hesitation on the pricing of their products.

"We thought Filipinos would not buy our products at P35 because they can spend the same money to buy a complete meal at Jollibee. We were pleasantly surprised because the average price paid by a customer is P45.50 per cup," she says.

The team left no stone unturned in ensuring that Quickly's first or experimental store in the Philippines would be successful.

"We chose Recto because it covers the whole spectrum of consumers from A to Z and it's a very competitive place to start a business," Que says.

The Recto head office, which opened in March last year, was designed to have a lot of space because it would serve as the hub for raw materials coming from Taiwan. "We have a store in front; kitchen at the back and office on top."

The Recto branch opened with a bang as Quickly founder, Huang Puguang, graced the event and even sang and signed autographs. Huang is described as a famous artist in the company's China franchise website. Que likens him to pop singer Gary V.

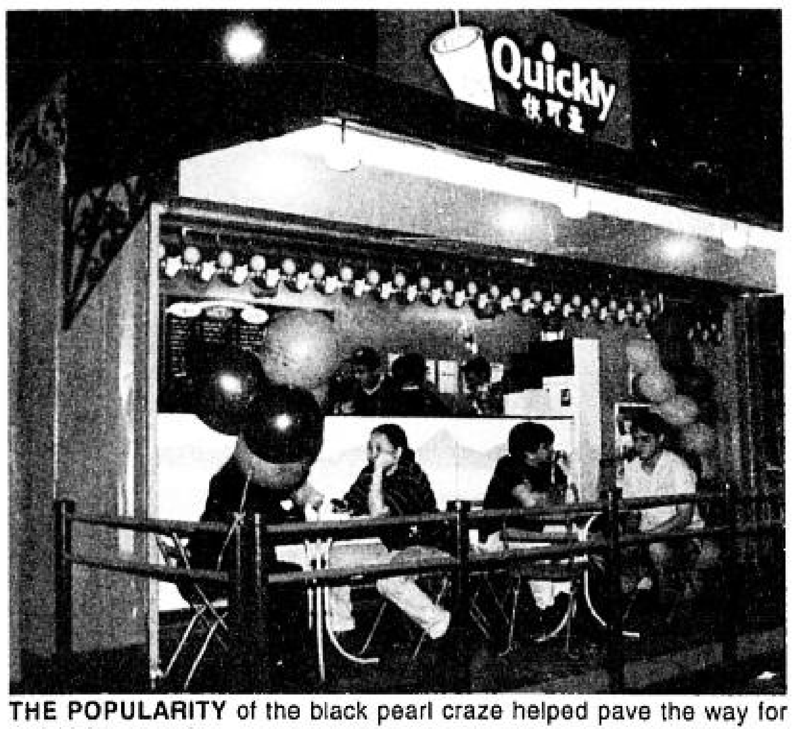
Huang, a marketing whiz, started Quickly in 1987 because he thought there was a demand from people who wanted healthy and clean fresh drinks that are served quickly.

With the backing of his wife (a nutritionist), Huang concocted hundreds of flavors of milk tea and fruit-based fresh drinks sold in vacuum-sealed cups.

At its peak, there were 1,000 Quickly stores selling an average of 1,000 cups a day in Taiwan.

Que said it took the company 10 years before it decided to award its first franchise store in Taiwan and overseas because it wanted to first develop its product line.

Just like its mother company, Que says Quickly Philippines wanted to first determine the best expansion strategy before giving out its first franchise. "It took us nearly three months before we opened our first franchise store."



THE POPULARITY of the black pearl craze helped pave the way for Quickly's expansion.

Quickly has only one company-owned franchise and it has carved up the Philippines into different territories to be handled by holders who would take care of choosing suitable Quickly store owners.

"We don't have the manpower to own a lot of stores. We give the franchisees all the income because we just want to expand fast," she says.

Que says the basic franchise package has remained at P350,000 since it opened and this include essential store equipment such as counters, chillers and freezer, and signboards. Additional costs are incurred by franchisees depending on the size and renovation required for the site. All materials—from the ingredients to the packaging materials—are all shipped in from Taiwan.

Potential franchise holders are expected to make a full commitment to manage the business.

"It's in food, it's supposed to be difficult. We are very picky on our franchisees. You can't tell us, 'Here's my money, give me a franchise.' We don't need your money. We need people who we believe can help us nurture the brand. That, and they should be willing to make the trip to Recto to discuss the terms of the business personally," she explains.

UNLIKE the plastic covers used for black pearl shakes, the milk tea drinks are vacuum-sealed.

She adds that it was crucial that the owner-managers know what products move fast because they would decide on what to order from the Recto head office. She said the owner-managers should know the ins-and-outs of running a store to ensure that it continues running even if one or two of its staff goes AWOL.

So far, Quickly franchise store owners are a contented lot. The stores sell an average of between 500 and 800 cups a day which can go up to 1,000 to 1,200 a day.

Abby Cua, Quickly's territorial manager for franchising in Quezon and Makati City, says she has slowed down the opening of stores in her area because most applicants were looking at the same place that already have Quickly branches.

Cua says the expansion has now moved outside Metro Manila and initial discussions have been made with potential territory managers in Iloilo, Cagayan de Oro, Davao, Laguna, Batangas and Cavite.

A major goal of Quickly is to steer more Filipinos into trying the milk tea drinks to boost their health.

"We tell people who buy taro ice to try taro milk tea," Que says.

Quickly also plans to make its products more affordable by introducing smaller sized cups to attract a bigger mass base. Its standard products range from P15 to P35 per cup.

AYALA MALLS MERCHANTS REWARDS 2000

When marketing becomes core of business

THE AYALA Malls recently recognized some of its merchants for their marketing excellence, having continued to do well in sales despite the economic slump.

Receiving a trophy for the third straight year was Ana Maria Tanchanco, president of Taters Enterprises Inc. She received the marketing excellence award for the food category.

Taters and the other awardees were cited for undertaking innovative marketing programs that are business and image building.

Other Visual Merchandising Excellence Awards went to People R People, Louis Vuitton, Anonymous, Mobile One, Rustan's and Cibo (for Alabang Town Center). Bench, Doc Martens, Dimensione, Astro Vision, 158 Designers Boulevard and Via Mare (for Ayala Center Cebu), Oxygen, Nike Park, Kidz Station, Mail and More, Rustan's and Oh, Georg!

Fashion retailer Bench, on the other hand, bagged the most number of trophies including the Grand Store of the Year and visual merchandising excellence in the apparel and non-food categories.

The Grand Store of the Year award is given to an Ayala Mall establishment that has shown commitment to product innovation and loyalty to the Ayala malls.

Store of the Year awardees include Kamiseta, Guess?, and Rustan's. These stores were chosen for having upheld the highest standards of business management and operations.

Marketing Excellence winners included Taters, Bench, Warner Bros., Dulcinea, Giordano, Jollibee, Levi's and Rustan's.

For customer service special awards, the winners were Dulcinea, The Athlete's Foot, Bass America, Benetton, Caswell and Massey, Designer Blooms, Florsheim, Kamiseta, Marlboro Classics, Wrangler Shop, Young Minds, Cali-

WHEN/ C8

AYALA MALLS
MERCHANT REWARDS

STORE of the Year, Ayala Center Makati. (From left) Rowena Nazareth of Ayala Land, Chris and Gann Roque of Kamiseta, Francisco H. Licuanan III, president of Ayala Land Inc. and Rowena Tomeldan, also of ALI.

Lipad Pinoy

SOME of Taters' award-winning marketing materials.

Condotel turns pro-active to lure market

(From page C1)

a long business relationship with the Century group.

Instead of spending a hefty amount to stay in luxury hotels like Shangri-La and Manila Peninsula, for instance, expatriates who need to stay longer in the country would find a better bargain staying in these condotels.

"The difference between a hotel and a condotel is that individual units in the condotel have a complete kitchenette facilities and therefore, we target the long-staying market and that's what we're able to capture," she says.

There was a time, for instance, that 60 rooms out of Primetown's 216 and Citadel's 176 were always occupied by long-staying clients, who would stay for 15 days, one month or even years.

Long-staying guests can command lower rates, even going down to as cheap as P30,000 each month at current prices.

Citadel and Primetown also get a lot of business from expatriates who have not yet found a permanent place to live, and from clients who book through tie-ups with airlines and travel agencies.

The buy-one-take-one promos, like the "Up for Grabs" scheme for Citadel and Primetown last January, for instance, also never fails to catch the interest of budget conscious individuals.

Del Rosario also says that condotels complement—rather than compete—the deluxe hotels.

When an entourage of business executives comes to Makati, for instance, while the CEOs and SVPs are booked in the likes of Shangri-La and Manila Peninsula, the condotels get a share of the booking among the rest of the staff.

She, however, admits that competition has become even more fierce these days as even deluxe hotels have dropped their rates to attract a slice of a shrinking market.

While competitive pricing is always part of the marketing formula, Del Rosario says that the Century group does not automatically join in these price wars among hotels.

"It's easy to bring down rates but once you bring it down, it will be difficult to bring it up again," she says, noting that decisions on pricing must never put the condotel's financial viability at risk.

"And here is where the Century branding comes in. Clients recognize the quality of your service," she notes.

It also helps that the Century group is linked with a global distribution system—Lexington Reservations Systems.

"If you're talking about marketing trends, we have a lot of help with the travel agencies but with the new trend in e-commerce and Internet reservations, it is really contributing now to very, very good income," she says.

Del Rosario notes that selling hotel rooms through the Internet already accounts for a significant share of her condotels' business. The balance comes from direct sales and from travel agencies, especially since these condotels can't really compete with the likes of Shangri-La in terms of facilities.

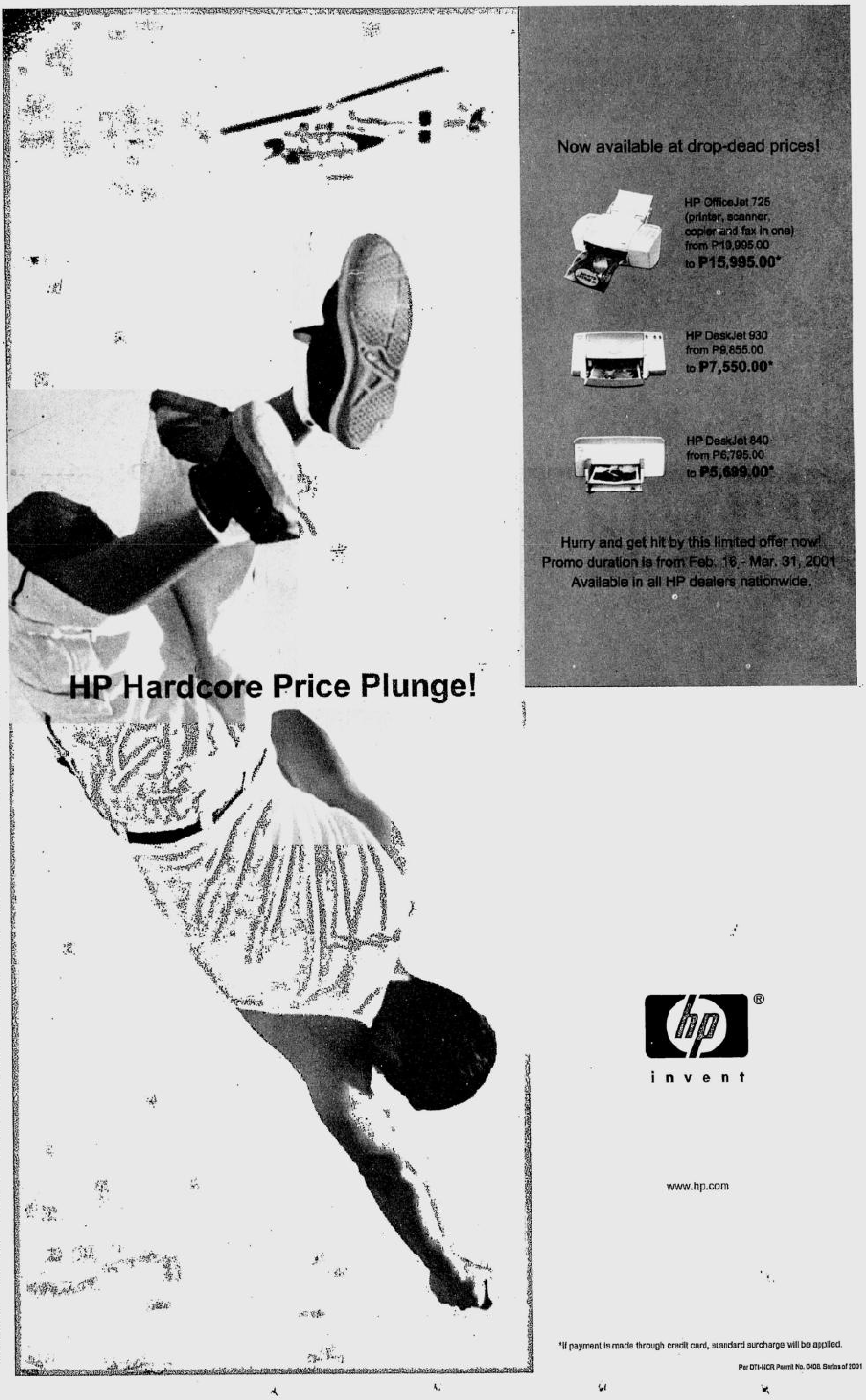
"When you deal with travel agents, it doesn't really rely much on the incentive system. But as long as they know that when you do business with them, you protect them—like it's important that you don't undercut them, for example and they'll be happy with you and will never forget you in their local and international programs," she says.

Travel agencies, she says, have been known to blacklist hotels that offer lower rates to corporate clients compared to the rates offered to them.

Also part of a pro-active marketing strategy, Del Rosario says, is to come up with innovative strategies that do rely solely on traditional marketing gimmicks like the usual advertising, sales trips abroad and sales calls.

She says it is imperative to come up with creative gimmicks like e-mail campaigns, loyalty program and to forge tie-ups with banks and airlines as well as participate in trade fairs and exhibits.

It is also important to keep up with the emerging trends in the business, she points out. "A good and focused salesperson will always read newspapers and magazines to get new business leads and learn what else is happening with other hotels," Del Rosario says.


Now available at drop-dead prices!

HP OfficeJet 725
(printer, scanner, copier and fax in one)
from P19,995.00
to **P15,995.00***

HP DeskJet 930
from P9,855.00
to **P7,550.00***

HP DeskJet 840
from P6,795.00
to **P5,699.00***

Hurry and get hit by this limited offer now!
Promo duration is from Feb. 16 - Mar. 31, 2001
Available in all HP dealers nationwide.

HP Hardcore Price Plunge!

hp ®
invent

www.hp.com

*If payment is made through credit card, standard surcharge will be applied.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0408, Series of 2001

Brazil attacks digital divide with $300 Volkscomputer

BELO HORIZONTE, Brazil—Hard disk? Who needs it? Floppy drive? Surplus! Windows? Send to trash!

The small, transparent acrylic box sitting in Sergio Vale Campos' office at the Federal University of Minas Gerais has none of the above basics, but it is still a computer.

What's more important in Brazil, where the digital divide is a gaping abyss, the machine's lack of frills should mean it can be produced for about 600 reals, or $300. It is a PC for the people, a Volkscomputer.

Late last year, the government commissioned Vale Campos' team to design the low-budget machine as a response to worries about worsening the country's social and economic inequalities by starving the poor of information technology.

The computer had to have a modem, a color monitor, speakers, a mouse and simple Internet-browsing software. It also had to be modular so users could later add a printer or disk drives.

By early February, a prototype was ready and later this year, once software hitches have been smoothed out, the government plans to install the stripped-down machines in public schools and sell them to low-wage earners on installment for as little as $15 a month.

Installation in public schools alone will give Internet access to 7 million children.

"We realized this was not a First World problem—we were not going to find a Swedish or a Swiss company to solve this for us. We would have to do it ourselves," said Ivan Moura Campos, the project's mastermind and no relation to Vale Campos.

In the United States, a cheap PC might go for $500, but that's expensive in Brazil, where the minimum monthly wage is 150 reals, or $75.

"If everything we are planning becomes reality, and we manage to produce this at 600 reals per unit, we will be creating a new base of some millions of new computer users in Brazil," he said.

Brazil, with its 170 million people and $580 billion in gross domestic product, is Latin America's largest economy. Its 3.9 million regular Internauts, as Web surfers are called here, mean it also accounts for about 40 percent of Latin America's Internet users, according to a recent study by eMarketer.

Still, most Brazilians don't earn enough to have a phone line, never mind a computer.

When Vale Campos chose his components, everything had to be available on the Brazilian market to keep costs low. The result, he says, is a multimedia machine about half the size of a regular PC that "might be cheap, but is not trash."

He counts off the computer's attributes on his fingers: a 500-megahertz processor, 64 megabytes of main memory and 16 MB more on a flash chip that substitutes for a hard drive.

There's a 56 kbps modem and the software is Linux-based and, therefore, free. Because the machine is modular, schools can link a series up to a regular PC that would act as a server.

"What we did was imagine a PC and strip off the fat," said Vale Campos, who got his doctorate in computer science at Carnegie Mellon University.

The main difficulty was configuring hardware and software, he said, because "many pieces automatically assume there is a hard drive and here there is none."

Now all the government needs is somebody to build it.

Local industry executives have hinted they might not be able to build the Volkscomputer for $300. According to Moura Campos, their first response to the government was $600, about $400 cheaper than the current price of a budget PC.

But he says a producer will be found, thanks to tax incentives recently enshrined in a new information technology law. Others are not so sure.

"Equipment is getting cheaper by the day, but I'm not sure the market price for this minimal micro will really be 600 reals," said Carlos Afonso, development director at the Sao Paulo-based Network for the Third Sector.

AP

Congratulation$ to the winner$

UNIONDollar T.D.
$2K
PRIZE GIVEAWAYS

GRAND PRIZE WINNER
Sony Home Theater System
Manuel Cu

TWO (2) SECOND PRIZE WINNERS
Sony Flat TV
Gilbert Bautista
William Mangus

THREE (3) THIRD PRIZE WINNERS
Sony DVD-VCD-CD Player
Fortunata San Gabriel
Kari-Kaarlo Antero Lahti
Carmelo Bautista

TEN (10) CONSOLATION PRIZE WINNERS
Sony Videocd Discman Esp
Yu Sui Ha
UBP 181-055-00
Veronica L. Borromeo
Halifax Davao Hotel Inc.
Simmy Y.K. Lam
Bank One Savings and Trust Corporation
San Miguel Holdings
Jose Valencia
Edelia E. Tijing
International Wiring Systems Phil. Corp.

UNIONBANK
Your Bank. Your Future.

The raffle draw, witnessed and supervised by a duly authorized DTI representative, was held on February 16,2001 at 5 pm at the Unionbank Main Office, 5/F SSS (Makati), Ayala Avenue, Makati City. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0851 Series of 2000.
www.unionbankph.com

When . . .

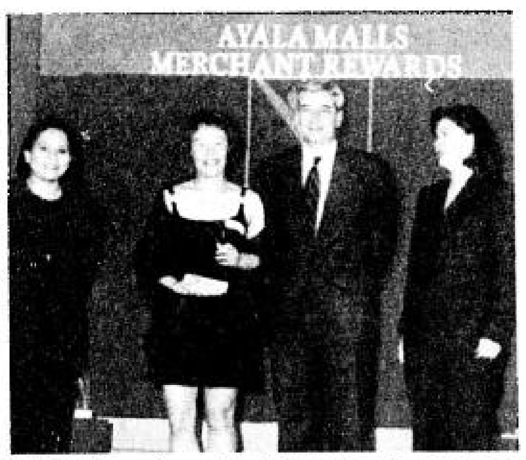
(From page C7)

fornia Pizza Kitchen, Lacoste, Marks & Spencer, Rustan's, Red Ribbon Bakeshop and The Body Shop.

Tina Esguerra, division manager of Ayala Center Makati, says Ayala Malls believe a store must ensure that it has all its "legs" for it to stand up and be competitive.

"Marketing is important because you need to be seen and heard in the mall as there are so many choices and you want to be the choice. For you to be the choice, you need to do marketing activities that are targeted to your customers," Esguerra explains.

The Ayala Malls first gave out the awards three years ago to encourage retailers to be more conscious of marketing and image building.



TATERS receives a Marketing Excellence Award during the recent Ayala Malls Merchant Rewards. Taters president Anna Maria Tanchanco receives the award from Ayala Land Inc. chairman Fernando Zobel de Ayala.

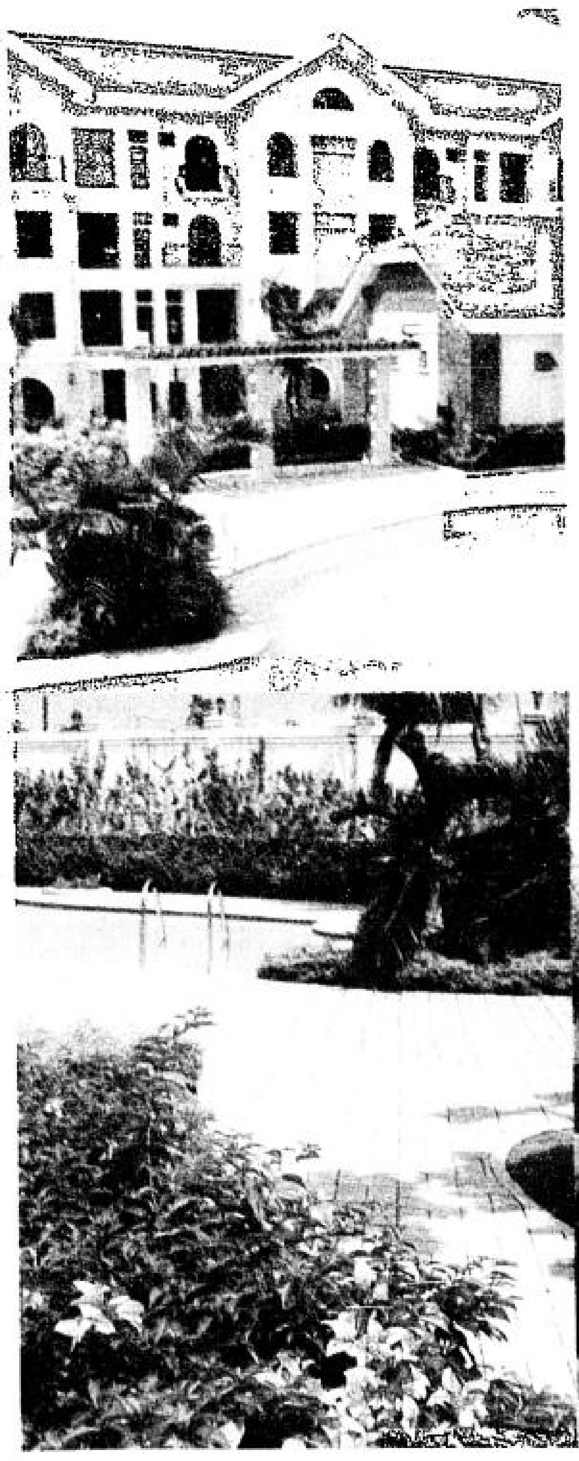
AYALA MALLS
MERCHANT REWARDS

FROM left: Tina Esguerra of Ayala Land Inc., Alex Libongco of Dulcinea, Fernando Zobel de Ayala and Maricris Bernardino of Alabang Town Center.

AURORA Tanseco of Tickles awarded by Rowena Tomeldan of Ayala Land Inc.

QUIET SECLUSION...
AND COSMOPOLITAN RECREATION...
TWO PATHS THAT MEET AT

GOLFHILL
TERRACES



Escape to a life of serene pleasures at Golf Hill Terraces. In beautifully designed townhouses and garden villas set in a refreshingly different hillside location. A self-enclosed community lavished with first-class sports and recreational amenities such as a swimming pool, squash courts, gym and clubhouse.

And beyond its gates, the myriad attractions of the city summon. Shopping centers and places for dining and entertainment provide a wealth of choices for leisure. Golf Terraces also stands in the circle of excellence with the campuses of UP, Ateneo and Miriam College conveniently near and accessible.

GOLFHILL
TERRACES
Ever Gotesco Commonwealth Center
COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
Celebrity Sports Plaza
MANOTOC DRIVE
Ayala Heights
CAPITOL DRIVE
Capitol Hills Golf & Country Club
University of the Philippines
Miriam College
QUEZON CITY
Ateneo de Manila University
MRT-3
AURORA BOULEVARD
MRT-2
EDSA
C-5
Eastwood City
ORTIGAS AVENUE
Ortigas CBD

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR
LIMITED OFFER— BIGGER DISCOUNTS
AND EASIER PAYMENT TERMS.

Developer:
MEGAWORLD CORPORATION
Showroom: Golf Hills Terraces, Golf Hill (Manotoc) Drive, Capitol Hills, Quezon City
Tels: (632) 867-8868 · 867-8888 Fax: (632) 867-8028
E-mail: sales@megaworld.com.ph · Web Site: www.megaworldcorp.com

For Announcement Purposes Only

ANNIE CARMONA, Marketing Consultant

all about élan

HOWARD BORJA, Art Director

[éla] flair, distinction, class

CONCHITINA SEVILLA-BERNARDO, Editor

Asia's Best

Setting the New Standard in Luxury Living.

Pacific Plaza Towers
Bonifacio Global City

A Project of Distinction by Metro Pacific Corporation
and Bases Conversion Development Authority

For inquiries, call 894-5561 or visit www.pacificplazatowers.com

THE PACIFIC

IN THE TRADITIO

Metro Pacific Corporation and the Bas
are proud to inaugurate their signatur
Pacific Pl

"The Pacific Plaza Towers is the realization of Metro Pacific's vision as a property developer -- a project that carries a tradition of sustained excellence. Let this be the symbol of our commitment to introduce new standards not only in residential condominiums, but in building an entirely competitive global city. I am most proud of this achievement."

Manuel V. Pangilinan
Chairman, Metro Pacific Corporation

The dramatic lighting of tl

The vast greenery of the Manila Golf Course is not only picturesque but also offers a refreshing and generous layer of oxygen to residents.

PACIFIC PLAZA TOWERS
AND PURE

The panoramic view directly below all the units is a 12,000 square-meter tropical garden that boasts of cascading waterwalls, reflecting pools, an olympic-size swimming pool, children's playground, and an outdoor meditation garden.

ON CALL: THE OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE TEAM

Martin Rio, Associate Director/ FPDSavills and concurrently Resident Manager of Pacific Plaza Towers, is an "old hen it comes to managing high-end luxury proper- familiar face to residents of the Pacific Plaza along venue, Martin served them as Property Manager. in line with the developers' effort to provide the best to sidents in Pacific Plaza Towers, Martin heads the team will manage the residents' day-to-day lifestyle needs.

Let's meet Martin Rio...

Elan : How do you differentiate building administration and property management?

MTR : Property management or PM, is more than the stewardship functions of a building administrator. PM has a more far-reaching effect of operating and managing a property throughout its productive life with strategic focus on value, service, engineering, comfort and safety as well as financial concerns.

Elan : What about the Property Management's concern about values. Can you explain that?

MTR : PM is concerned about value in two ways; one is the enhancement or preservation of the condominium's value which is running into billions of pesos by maintenance of or improvements to the building. Second, is the value created for the shareholders by way of tenants attracted or retained in their appreciation of the management and services. This is true also for the owner-user as they gain from the appreciation of capital values which is a consequence of the condominium being the most preferred home. The price of your condo is driven by, among other factors, the demand for it. And the demand, in part, is driven by the good management and service from which the owner-users benefit.

Elan : The Property Management of condominiums is always bench-marked with that of Pacific Plaza Condominium (PPC) on Ayala Avenue. To what would you attribute this success?

MTR : Judging from the interest in the design and PM of PPC still expressed to us by real estate developers, I can humbly say that it is not only in PM but also in the condominium development that PPC remains to be the bench marker even after 10 years.

And that success lies in the foresight of Mr. Del Rosario to include from the very start of designing PPC all property management concerns such as long term economy, sustainability of operation, comfort, safety and quality service.

Elan : Can you say the same for the new Pacific Plaza Towers (PPT)?

MTR : Yes, and in a far more thoughtful way. For example, the choice of materials is decided after including in the evaluation its life cycle cost rather than the usual criteria of first cost done by others to protect their bottom line.

To be specific, in PPT you will have air conditioning, which was purchased at a considerably higher price than the ordinary split or window or terminal type air conditioner so that the clients can benefit from its power efficiency.

Another example is the hardwood floor. With its resiliency against warping, buckling and delamination, you can do away with the re-sanding and re-varnishing thus giving you low cost of ownership as well as the health benefit by avoiding the allergenic effect of dust and varnish.

Elan : You speak of quality. I can imagine how difficult it is for you to consistently maintain quality among your high profile clients in Pacific Plaza.

MTR : That is correct. It is difficult. And the daily chances of relating to all of the high net-worth PPC clients makes it doubly difficult. Potentially, your client base grows 170% because of tenant-owner mix. Then it becomes exponentially difficult.

But Albert del Rosario makes it easy. He is the epitome of quality. Besides, nobody knows this high-end market better than he does. The standard and the knowledge he shares, helps us in all the daily challenges. Add to that the global expertise of FPD Savills, then you'll understand the synergy between a pro-active Board of Directors headed by Mr. del Rosario and a well-experienced comp like FPD Savills is for the good of the clients.

Martin Rio *(center)* **and the Management Team**

Elan : What new management initiatives will you in- duce to PPT?

MTR : Do you know that the air inside a building is 2 times more polluted than the outside air and that we 90% most of the times indoors? This is from a rese done by the US Environmental Protection Agency.

There is now a worldwide concern to keep pollu out of the building and to maintain Indoor Air Qualit IAQ. This is what we would like to introduce at PPT.

Fortunately, PPT is uniquely positioned to keep p with IAQ. With its location and 1.2-hectares of landsca gardens, it has so many sources of fresh natural air.

PPT's air conditioners reject heat through the deck thus minimizing the possibility of the thrown air drawn back through the windows or through gaps in wall. Furthermore, the water cooling the system is nev contact with contaminants as it circulates in a close loop

The pollutants which are byprod from the repair and maintenance of nat wood are avoided by the hardwood flo

Ample number of operable window both ends of a linear-oriented layout m possible a high air exchange rate that prevent bacterial growth.

Parking is monitored by compute which will automatically throw out gas exhaust from the cars and replace it supply of fresh air. Even the garbage rooms are air-conditioned to prevent smell-produ ing decay.

Because of the above, it is imperat for the PM to formulate process guidel and implement these for PPT to remain high performance building. This would be reflected in our fit-out guide, housekeep and Operations & Maintenance program It is this vision and foresight that make Pacific Plaza Towers the premiere residential ad dress today and in the years to come. ◘

PLAZA TOWERS

N OF EXCELLENCE

ses Conversion Development Authority
project in Bonifacio Global City - the
za Towers

Pacific Plaza Towers at dusk.

"It is with pride that we present Asia's best residential condominium, the Pacific Plaza Towers. I am grateful to all the members of the development team who embraced our highest standards and delivered the expertise necessary to achieve a project of this magnitude. The completed project, we trust, will exceed the expectations of our shareholders and residents."

Albert F. del Rosario
President, Pacific Plaza Towers

IS ALL ABOUT ELEGANCE LIFESTYLE.

Over 300 types of trees and flowering plants adorn the vast expanse of the garden estate.

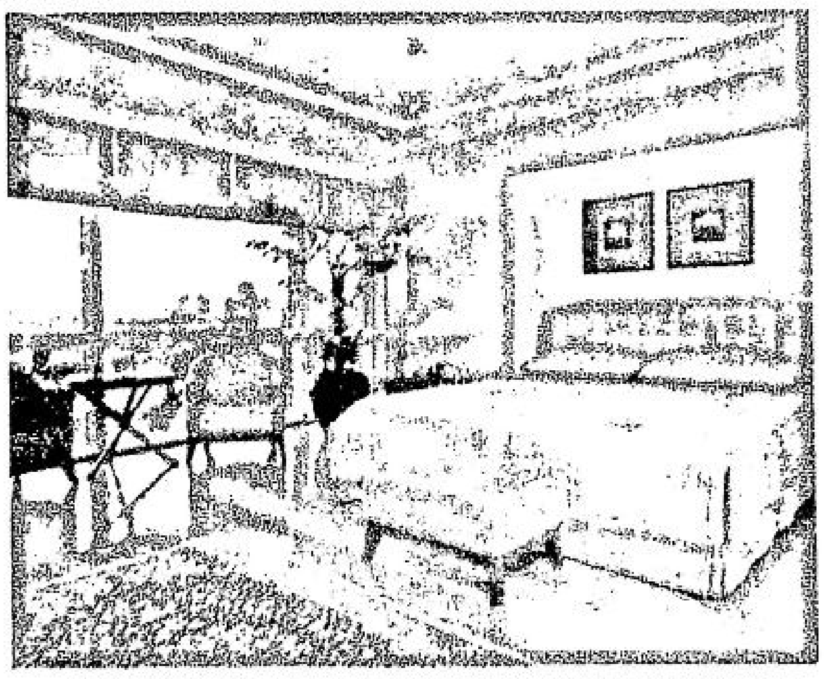
Regular polo matches at the Manila Polo Club can moreover be viewed from both towers, adding elegance to a unique lifestyle.

HAPPY TO BE HOME

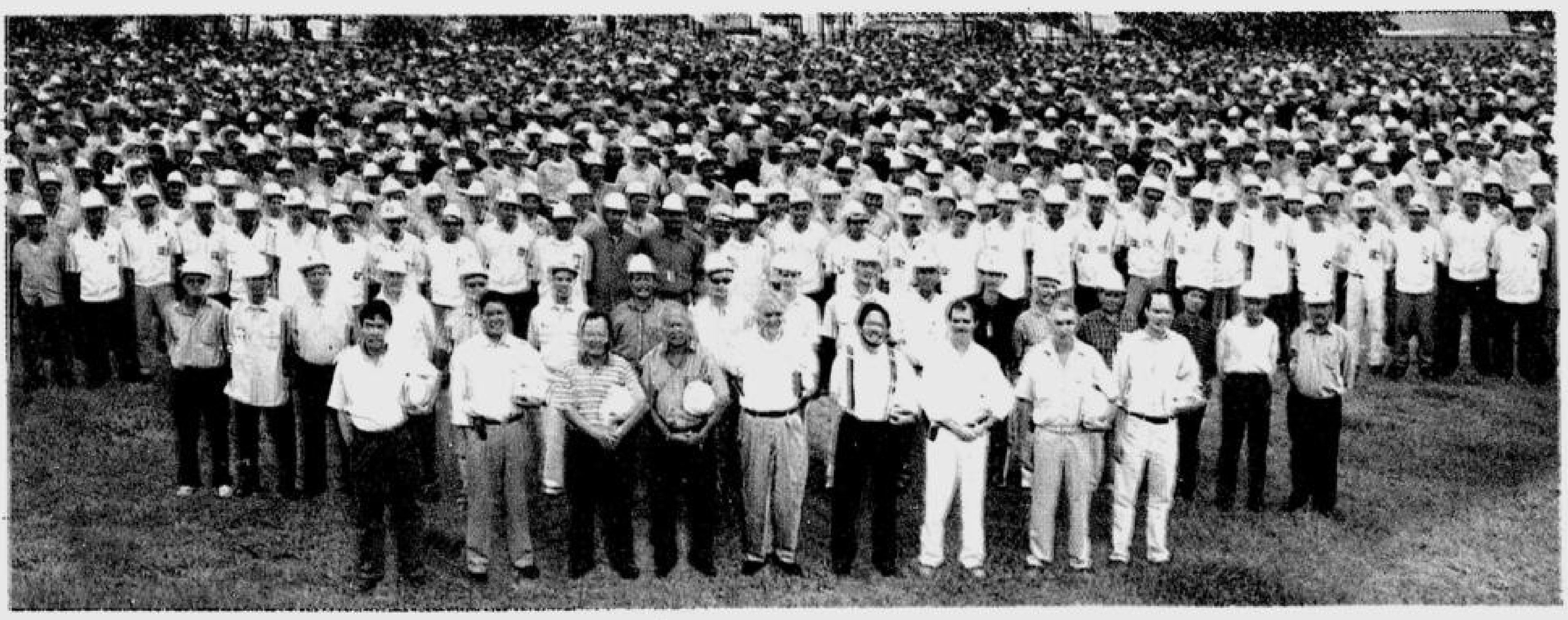
Marion Coscolluela

Interior Designer
Resident, Suite 6D North Tower
The Pacific Plaza Towers

"Now, more than ever, coming 'home' is a major daily event. I feel that I am surrounded by everything that I treasure, and truly enjoy. My home at the Pacific Plaza Towers showcases my own design statement."



PROUD TO DELIVER ASIA'S BEST

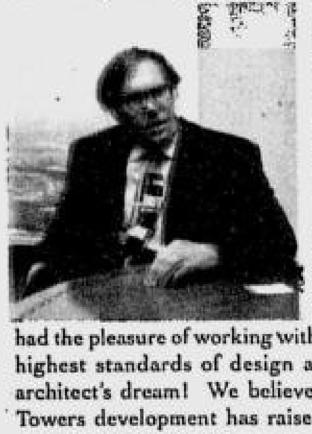


THE TOTAL QUALITY TEAM

ARQUITECTONICA, USA

Bernardo Fort-Brescia, Architect

Founding Principal



We have built our practice on the design of luxury residential condominium towers around the world, yet not always are we so fortunate to design a building on such a magnificent site with such open views of both golf course and city skyline. In addition, we had the pleasure of working with developers who set the highest standards of design and construction ... an architect's dream! We believe that the Pacific Plaza Towers development has raised the bar for high-rise residential living in Asia.

FKL (FLACK & KURTZ), USA

Sheldon Steiner

Principal

Upon receipt of this commission, I conferred with Mr. Albert del Rosario to determine what his vision was for Pacific Plaza Towers. Mr. del Rosario wanted to create in Manila a world-class residence.

The result, Pacific Plaza Towers incorporates the most advanced mechanical and electrical engineering features. The system in each residence provides its occupants with superior comfort, high operating efficiency, ease of maintenance, and long equipment life.

RECIO+CASAS ARCHITECTS

Carmelo T. Casas, Architect

Principal

As the Design Consultant for the Pacific Plaza, Ayala Avenue, Makati and as Project Architect of the new Pacific Plaza Towers in Bonifacio Global City, Recio-Casas Architects is proud to be associated with one of the most prestigious addresses in the country today.

Having lived in Hong-Kong for many years, and worked with prestigious projects in Asia, we are confident Pacific Plaza Towers can stand among Asia's Best!

In their tradition of excellence, I take this opportunity to congratulate our client, Metro Pacific Corporation and their partners, for another successful undertaking, one that sets the standard in the high-end luxury residential projects.

Pacific Plaza Towers is one of the most challenging works we have undertaken. The client's high standards and dynamic leadership have inspired and motivated all of the consultants and contractors involved to give their best in their respective disciplines

Nothing was spared in their quest for perfection to bring together state-of-the-art technology and the latest design solutions available in the world today.

I will always cherish and treasure this once in a lifetime experience of working with the best people put together to accomplish this project.

On behalf of Recio-Casas Architects, we thank the client for this opportunity and also all the people who have worked with us. We hope the residents will share our sentiments and be able to enjoy living at the Pacific Plaza Towers.

JOSOL

Ernesto Reyes

Vice President, Sales

In 1998, most businesses, including property development companies were talking of budget cuts and downgrading of specifications. Most were thinking bottom line. Yet, Pacific Plaza Towers Inc. and their architects were undauntedly talking top of the line - including their choice of premier bathroom fixtures and accessories from Kohler and Baldwin Hardware brass locks.

To the distinguished unit owners at the Pacific Plaza Towers, this uncompromising disposition to quality is your guarantee that this project is worthy of the respect and acclamation that the public has accorded the Pacific Plaza Towers. Only the most exacting norms have been used to make sure that you take complete pride in your new address.

We at Josol Home Decor Improvement Center Inc. are very grateful to the developers for allowing us to be part of Pacific Plaza Towers. Our congratulations to Pacific Plaza Towers and its esteemed clients on the completion of a remarkable project.

LOXON PHILIPPINES

Edilberto C. Esmerio

President & CEO

The Fire Safety and Building Security Management Systems utilized for the Pacific Plaza Towers are among the most advanced state-of-the-art technology. As a pioneer and leader in the industry, we are proud to be part of a world-class project, Asia's best --- the Pacific Plaza Towers!

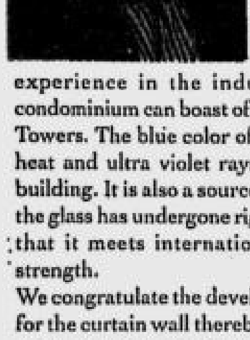
OTIS

Mignon Ramos

General Manager

With the developers' high standards of quality in their choice of state-of-the-art high speed elevators, Otis Elevator Company is privileged to be part of the success that is the Pacific Plaza Towers.

RINALDI STRUCTAL



Paul Rae-Howard

Project Manager

Based upon our extensive experience in the industry, no other residential condominium can boast of a curtain wall like Pacific Plaza Towers. The blue color of the Belgium glass reflects the heat and ultra violet rays while lending beauty to the building. It is also a source of great comfort to know that the glass has undergone rigorous testing abroad to ensure that it meets international standards of safety and strength.

We congratulate the developers in their selection of glass for the curtain wall thereby showing their discriminating taste which is truly worthy of a high-end luxury residential project.

FPD SAVILLS

Jonathan Hannam

Regional Director, SEAsia

FPDSavills is proud to be involved in the marketing, sales and property management of one of Asia's most impressive projects. As a group, FPDSavills traditionally targets the high-end residential market as our niche. In the United Kingdom we sell castles and estates. In Europe, it would be villas on the Mediterranean or luxury apartments in Paris. For Asia, we are delighted to be involved in a project of the caliber of Pacific Plaza Towers.

Congratulations to all involved for a dream that has been realized!

SWM

(SKILLING WARD MAGNUSSON), USA

Ron Klemencic

Director

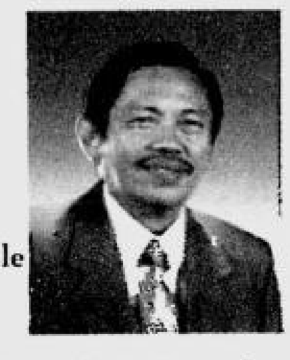
As the structural consultants of the Pacific Plaza Towers, human comfort and safety, consistent with expectations of high-end luxury dwellers were paramount in our program We are proud to have had the opportunity to work with the distinguished developers on a project that is truly world-class.

SAEI-EEI CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION

Daniel Dorville

Project Manager

SAEI France



Samson Lazo

President & CEO

EEI CORPORATION

It has been an honor for our company, SAEI-EEI Construction Corp., to have constructed such a prestigious project and to have worked so closely with the Metro Pacific Group's renowned team of consultants and advisers in order to complete the building to a world-class standard. We believe that we can all be proud of the result.

PLDT

Alfredo Panlilio

First VP, Corporate Customer Services

We at PLDT are proud to be your partners in this prestigious residential development. Pacific Plaza Towers will showcase the world-class telecomunications capabilities of the new PLDT. Congratulations and more power to the Pacific Plaza Towers.

ROVITRON, INC.

Robert Estacio

President/General Manager

Vikki S. Estacio

Treasurer

Don Finkwell

Principal

Rovitron, Inc. is very proud to have been selected to install Anderson Hardwood Floors (USA) in the Pacific Plaza Towers project. Each unit features an Anderson hardwood floor designed to stir the imagination with its beauty and elegance while giving years of trouble-free performance with state of the art finishes. The natural Beech, Red Oak, Elm, Maple and Pecan planks were individually selected by the unit owners and carefully fitted by Rovitron craftsmen to express the grain and natural characteristics of real wood.

Rovitron and Anderson are replanting the timber from which the floors were made through contributions to the Hardwood Forestry Fund. The visionary Pacific Plaza Towers complex sets a global example for environmental responsibility and good taste.

MACO KÜCHEN, Germany

Rolf Rabe

Managing Partner

Lyndia Chin

Managing Partner

We have taken great pains to meet the highest standards of the developers in terms of delivering a very special product - a fully-equipped, fully-integrated German kitchen. We have done this only for Pacific Plaza Towers.

BELT-COLLINS, HK

Larry Robbins

Sr. Project Director

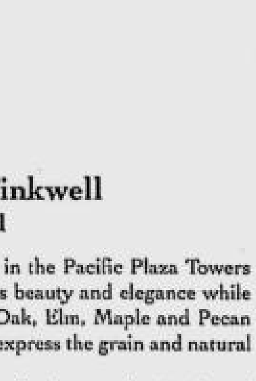
It was an incredibly satisfying opportunity for us to design one of the largest podiums in Asia. Multi-levels were created encompassing an upper "Water Garden", a middle level Olympic size swimming pool garden, and a lower level "Contemplative Garden" with natural waterfall features. Because it is adjacent to the Manila Golf course, expansive verdant views were incorporated into this vast and elegant urban oasis.

At its completion, the 1.2-hectare landscaped area is an oasis of pure beauty and serenity. We are truly proud to be part of Pacific Plaza Towers --- Asia's best!

DESIGN COORDINATES, INC.

Oscar Salvacion

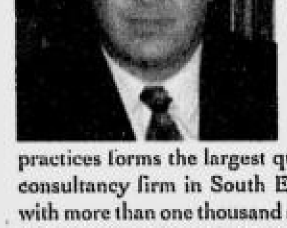
President



It has been a great privilege for us to work with the developer on a second project, after our first success with the Pacific Plaza on Ayala Ave. As the Project Managers for Pacific Plaza Towers, we can attest to the exacting standards set by the developers for the project.

Pacific Plaza Towers is truly Asia's best. To Metro Pacific Corporation and the Bases Conversion Development Authority, congratulations on your success!

DAVIS LANGDON & SEAH PHILIPPINES INC.



Allan Hearn

Exec. Vice President

Davis Langdon & Seah Philippines Inc. (DLS) is proud to be involved with one of the most prestigious high-rise developments in Asia today, that is, the Pacific Plaza Towers.

The DLS group of practices forms the largest quantity surveying and cost consultancy firm in South East Asia and the Far East with more than one thousand staff throughout the region. The Manila office currently has 4 Directors and over 150 local staff.

Construction projects with which the practice is currently involved cover both the private and public sectors. The range of projects include infrastructure, residential, commercial, industrial, educational, health care, recreation facilities and interior fit-outs.

LEDGE DANCING. Reef polo with placket and linen drawstring pants by A/X. Leather sandals by Marks & Spencer

LIFESTYLE

Trend Spotting

CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor ▫ MARGE C. ENRIQUEZ, Subsection Editor

The metaphysics of Jeffrey Quizon

(Story on page E4)

Travel Notebook

by Maurice Arcache

Travel packages are the way to go

Hi, *palanggas*!!! I'm delighted to bring you, well, my travel notes via this *tres* exciting new column of *moi*. As you very well know, dahlings, I enjoy traveling a lot. In fact, I do a lot of traveling, especially to the places where the bold and the beautiful converge - and I don't mean only places abroad. Trust me, dahlings, ours is a lovely, lovely country and there are lots of splendid travel spots that you and *moi* can enjoy, especially during these Summer months.

Moi crossing the beautiful Seine River in Paris.

So, do expect lots of travel tips from *moi* - from where to go and what to do, even on how to conduct your businesses in style.

Key here is to get the best deal you can possibly get for any trip. With the help of my trusty travel agency, I have been on several tour packages and it's definitely the way to go!

First of all, you never have to worry about anything, *palanggas*. The travel agency takes care of everything - booking your flights, making transfer arrangements and reservations in your destination, and planning a fabulous itinerary, if you require one.

The next great thing about travel packages: the agency gives you huge, huge discounts on just about anything - airfare, accommodations, tours, etc. Fuss-free travel with loads of savings. If that's not a great deal, dahlings, then I don't know what is!

In fact, I hear there's an even better deal just introduced by **Citibank** credit cards (I do have several of those in *moi* designer wallet). To help confused souls decide and afford vacations this summer, Citibank teamed up with 4 airlines, 1 cruise line and 13 travel agencies to bring you the most irresistible tour packages of the season.

The beauty of this team-up is if you book your tour with any of the 13 travel agencies, and of course pay with a Citibank credit card, you don't get slapped a surcharge. That's a lot of savings! Plus, we earn Double Rewards Points. Now, that's what I call *tres fantastique!*

And then, something must be said for this *tres* fabulous installment plan of Citibank called PayLite. With any of my Citibank cards, I can avail of PayLite. Do call Citibank at 995-9999 for the details. Trust me, *palanggas*, PayLite works like magic when you use it to pay for your trips So dahlings, what are you waiting for?

Till my next column, dahlings, where I shall share with you tips on how to choose your destinations. *Ciao*! See you!

CITIBANK

FERSAL
APARTELLE
TOURIST INN

*Fully Furnished * Clean * Nice Rooms*

₱400 to ₱1,300.00

Disc. on Wkly / Mo. * 11th DAY FREE

Tel. No. 911-2161 • Fax (632) 913-6078

107 Neptune Street Makati City 1201 (Tel. (632) 897-9123 Fax (632) 897-9107	245 P. Tuazon Street Cubao, Quezon City Tel. (632) 912-8000 Fax (632) 913-6078	130 Kalayaan Avenue Diliman, Quezon City Tel. (632) 924-2689 Fax (632) 925-3205	49 Annapolis Street Cubao, Quezon City Tel. (632) 912-5852 Fax (632) 911-3418

E-mail: fersal@skyinet.net

The Beacon School
A PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

will open in the tree lined grounds of the
Philippine Center for Population and Development, (PCPD) Inc.
Pasong Tamo Extension, Taguig, Metro Manila
on
June 28th 2001

It will provide:

- EXCEL Pre-school and Elementary Education with plans to progress to High School
- Small classes of 12-15 children
- A Personalized Learning Plan for each student
- A curriculum based on the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program
- Highly qualified staff, many with international experience
- Facilities which include a multi-media center, large auditorium, playground, and access to extensive playing fields.

If you would like to know more about the school, the next meeting for interested/prospective parents is on 10 March 2001 at 2:00 pm at the PCPD Bldg., Pasong Tamo Ext., Taguig. Applications for enrolment are now being accepted, please visit The Beacon School, 4/F Locsin Bldg., 6752 Ayala Ave. cor Makati Ave., Makati City or contact us at: Telefax No. 8940724 / Email:beacon@asiagate.net

GETAWAY
RESORTS & HOTELS GUIDE

BONITO ISLAND RESORT
TEL: 8122292/813-5458 / FAX: 8189754
PRE-SUMMER PACKAGE:
2N/3D P3,000/Pax
FOOD/ACOM/10% DISC.
20 RESERVATIONS

Munting Buhangin
NASUGBU, BATANGAS
TEL. NOS: 818-1975;818-4798
812-5448;TRKLINE: 810-3594
818-2083;818-0785;812-5679
818-0689 Loc.105

RESIDENCE INN
CALATAGAN • TAGAYTAY • CEBU
BLU BIANCO CLARK • ILIGAN
899-9814 / 899-9821/24

3·5·7·BORACAY·
899-1793/94
899-1943/44
Where Paradise Begins...
COUPLE'S TREAT
4D/3N W/B'FAST, TRANSFER
1 DINNER, ISLAND
HOPPING w/PACK LUNCH

Le Soleil
MAKATI OFFICE
25 PJL CORP CENTER
1782 KALAYAAN AVE.
COR. N GARCIA, MAKATI
Bgy Balabag, Malay, Aklan
FOR INQUIRIES CALL
TELEFAX : 899-8975
TRUNKLINE : 895-1777 Loc. 331
www.lesoleil.com.ph

CEBU BEACH CLUB
TAMBULI
MLA.RESVN:
522-2302
522-2303
CEBU:(032)
340-5936
495-7717
www.tambuli.com
EMAIL: tambuli@mozcom.com
SUMMER PACKAGES:
STANDARD P 5,100 net
SUPERIOR P 5,500 net
PREMIUM P 7,300 net
3D/2N, + OTHER INCLUSIONS
VALID UNTIL MAR. 1 - APR 7
APR. 17 - MAY 31, 2001
FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS ONLY

CLUB & MANILA EAST
GIANT POOLS ◎ GOLF RANGE
SEMINAR ROOMS
660-2805 / 6602801-04
660-1691 FAX: 658-0214

Monte Vista
SUMMER/SEMINAR PACKAGES !
LAGUNA: (049) 545-1259/545-2102
MKTI SALES OFC: 899-8488
monte_vista@netasia.net

HENRY'S COUNTRY BARNS
RESORT & HOTEL
Bagong Kalsada, Calamba Laguna
CONFERENCES/DAY TOURS
OUTINGS/SUMMER PACKAGES
GARDEN WEDDINGS
☎ 932.8865 / 69

JONEL SPRING RESORT
CALAMBA, LAGUNA
COMPANY / FAMILY PACKAGES
MANILA OFFICE: LAGUNA OFFICE:
371-8415 (049) 244-4245
371-8453 (049) 245-4929

BAKASYUNAN
681-5329
681-5369
681-5374
AIRCON TOWNHOUSES
NIPA COTTAGE/FUNCTION RM.
TENT CITY/FLOATING SHED
BILLIARDS/KTV BAR & REST.

www.tambuli.com
SUMMER PACKAGES:
STANDARD P 5,100 / PREMIUM P 7,300
3D/2N, + OTHER INCLUSIONS
FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS ONLY

FOREST HILLS
SUBIC BAY
SUMMER PACKAGES AVAILABLE
PLS CALL 814-0238 814-0219
814-0227/636-7687/636-7689
forhills@mail.info.com.ph

MONTEMAR BEACH CLUB
BAGAC, BATAAN
CALL US FOR RESERVATIONS
@ MONTEMAR HOTLINE
(632) 811 5496 / 892 6497
montemar@mindgate.net

The best of Boracay
Waling - Waling Beach Hotel
PHONE: 896.9457-58 856.6521
www.waling.com
boracay@philonline.com

[illegible]

RDS ROBINSONS DEPARTMENT STORE

wise buys

Patchworks ₱99.50

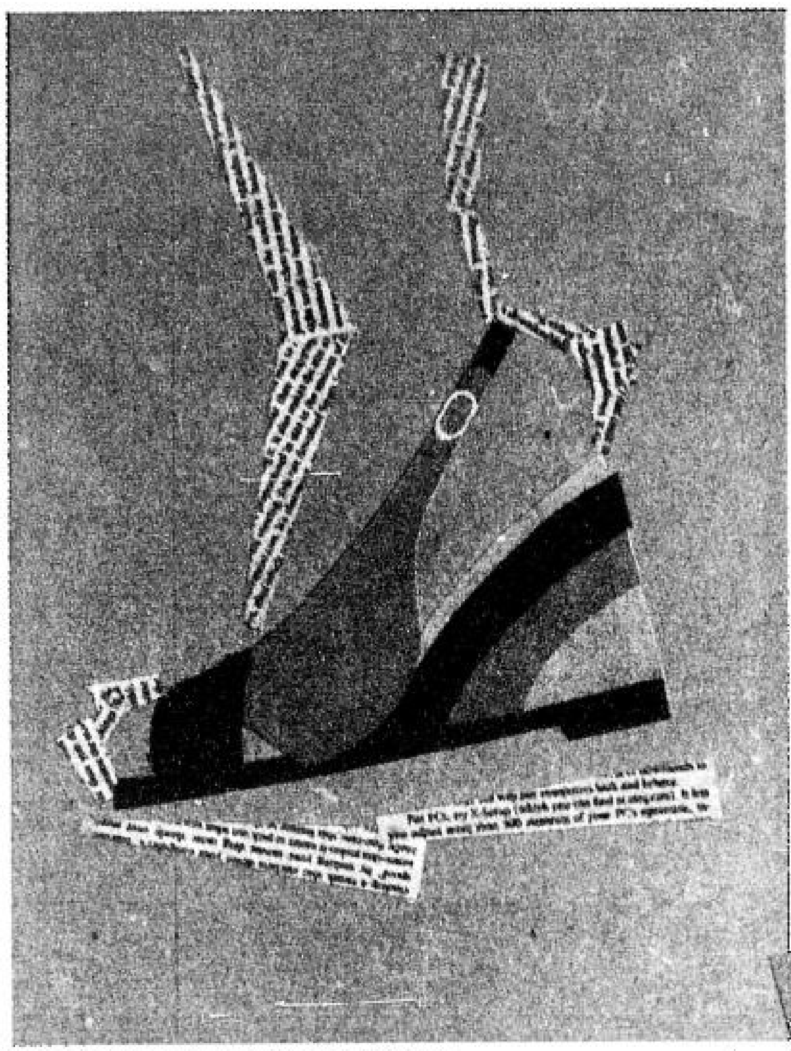
Dragonfly shirt not available at RDS Starmall Shaw, Sta. Rosa and Bacolod.

www.rds.com.ph

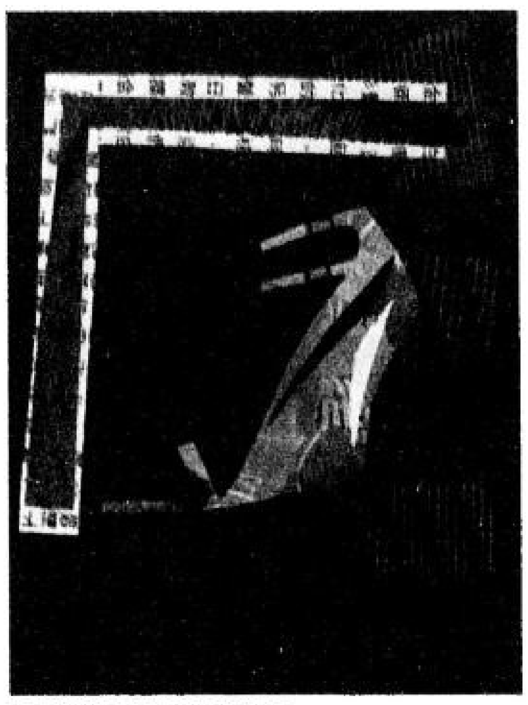
RDS @ Robinsons Galleria | Robinsons Place Manila, Imus, Cebu, Bacolod | Cainta | Tutuban Center | Starmall Shaw | Metropolis Star Alabang | Waltermart Sta. Rosa

NAUTICA

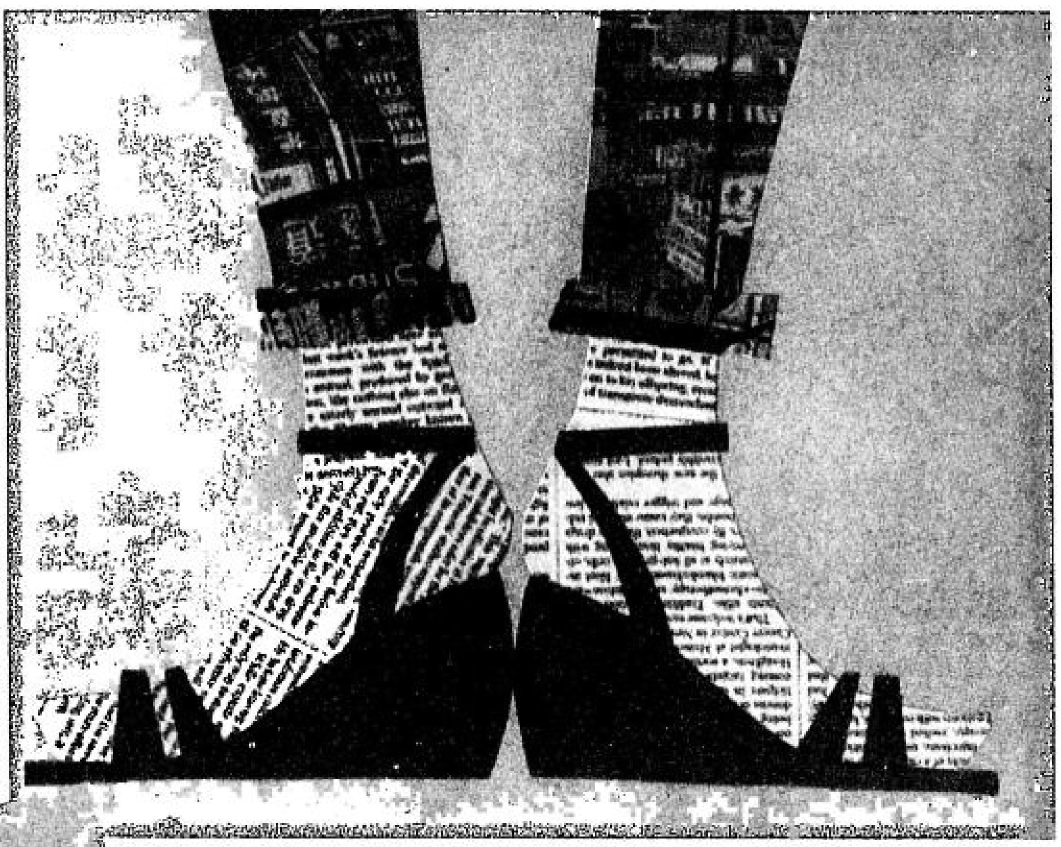
G/F GLORIETTA 4 TEL: 817-8960 • 2/F SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL TEL: 638-3587 • G/F COMMERCE MALL, ALABANG TOWN CENTER TEL: 842-8491



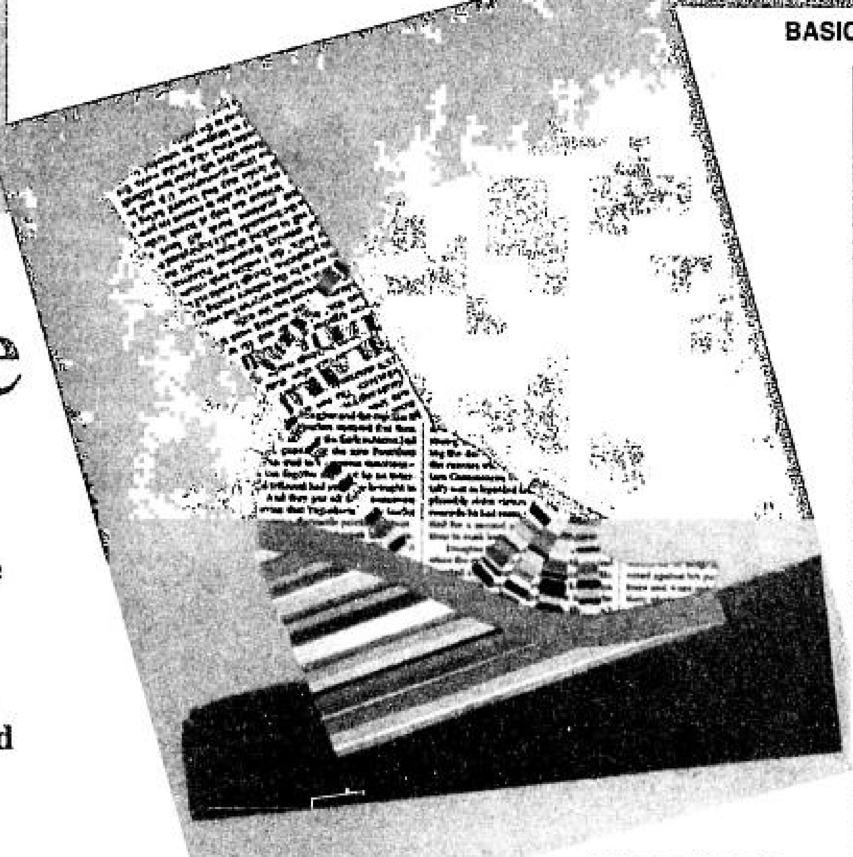
MULTICOLOR sling back by Patrick Cox



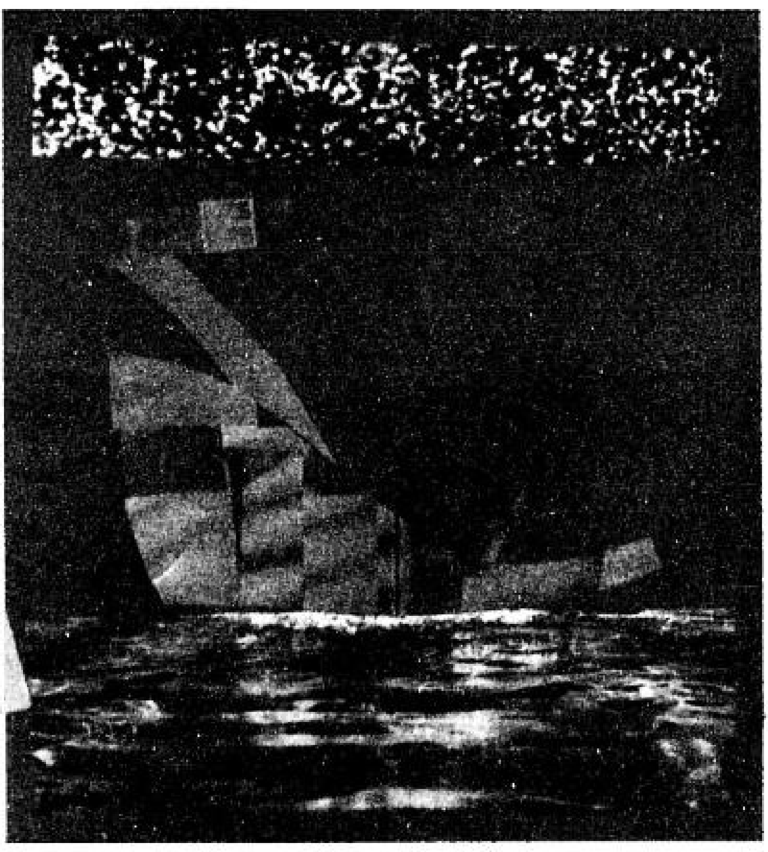
DOUBLE ANKLE-STRAP wedge in lemon-gold by Yves St. Laurent



BASIC wedge by Audley



MULTICOLORED sandal by Castaner

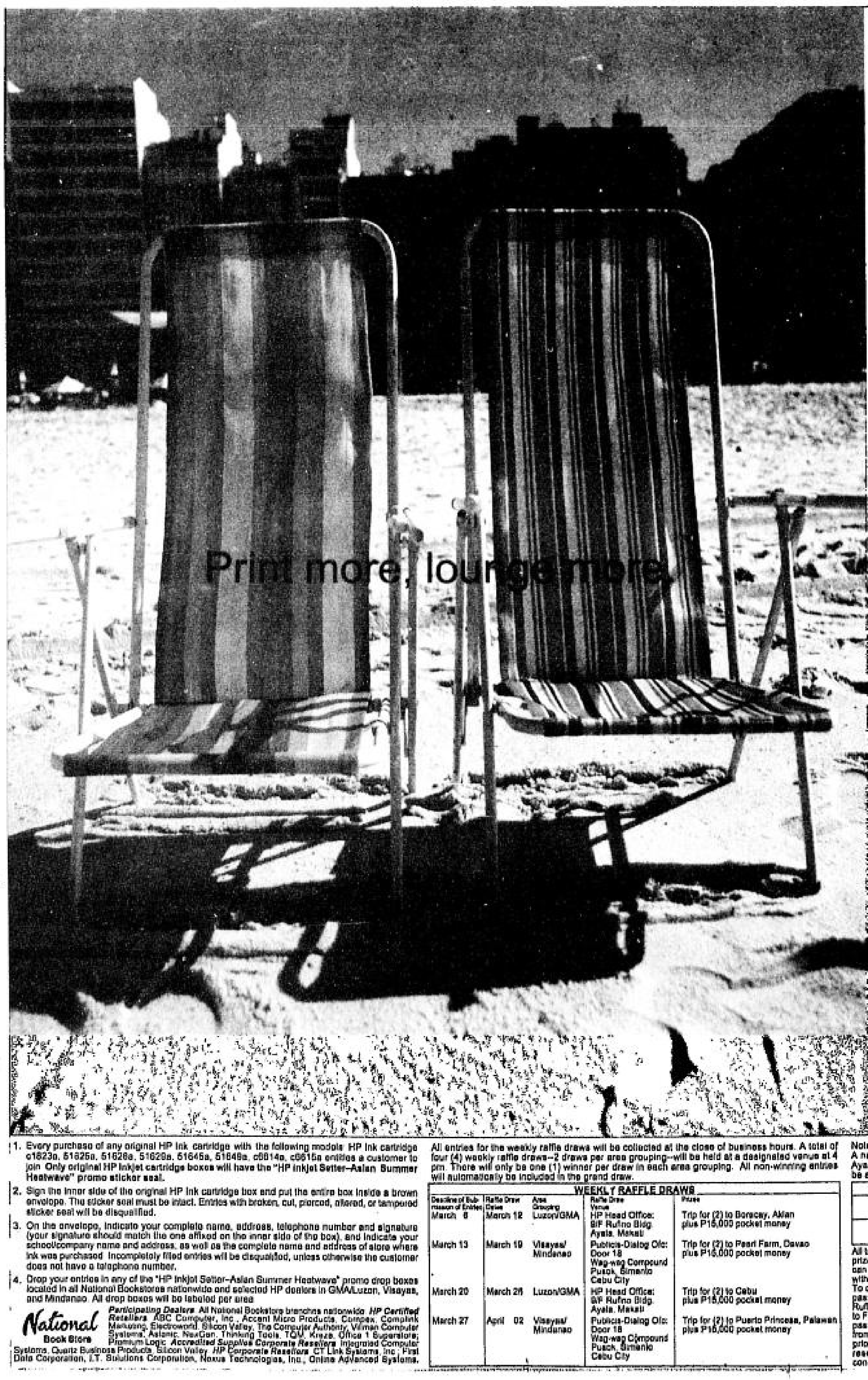


ANKLE-STRAP sandal by Gucci

Cutting wedge

COLLAGES BY JAMES REYES

THE COMPOUND noun "must-have" seems so trite. But with the inundation of wedge shoes in runway shows, it is an indication that you'll need the wedge in your wardrobe. Depending on the material, it can be used for resort wear or for evening. Today's wedge styles have higher heels, between four and six inches. Espadrilles with lace-ups are also cool.



The HP Printing system gives you colorful, lasting images... and travel thrills.

Join the "HP Inkjet Setter–Asian Summer Heatwave" promo!
Buy more original HP inkjet cartridges, use your printer more often and get more chances of winning free trips to Phuket, Thailand or Bali, Indonesia.

Always look for the" HP Inkjet Setter–Asian Summer Heatwave" promo sticker seal.
Promo period is from February 26 to April 3, 2001.

invent

1. Every purchase of any original HP ink cartridge with the following models HP Ink cartridge c1823a, 51625a, 51626a, 51629a, 51645a, 51649a, c6614a, c6615a entitles a customer to join Only original HP inkjet cartridge boxes will have the "HP Inkjet Setter–Asian Summer Heatwave" promo sticker seal.
2. Sign the inner side of the original HP ink cartridge box and put the entire box inside a brown envelope. The sticker seal must be intact. Entries with broken, cut, pierced, altered, or tampered sticker seal will be disqualified.
3. On the envelope, indicate your complete name, address, telephone number and signature (your signature should match the one affixed on the inner side of the box), and indicate your school/company name and address, as well as the complete name and address of store where ink was purchased Incompletely filled entries will be disqualified, unless otherwise the customer does not have a telephone number.
4. Drop your entries in any of the "HP Inkjet Setter–Asian Summer Heatwave" promo drop boxes located in all National Bookstores nationwide and selected HP dealers in GMA/Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. All drop boxes will be labeled per area

National Book Store

Participating Dealers All National Bookstore branches nationwide. *HP Certified Resellers* ABC Computer, Inc., Accent Micro Products, Compex, Complink Marketing, Electroworld, Silicon Valley, The Computer Authority, Villman Computer Systems, Asianic, NexGen, Thinking Tools, TQM, Kreza, Office 1 Superstore; Premium Logic *Accredited Supplies Corporate Resellers* Integrated Computer Systems, Quartz Business Products, Silicon Valley. *HP Corporate Resellers* CT Link Systems, Inc.; First Data Corporation, I.T. Solutions Corporation, Nexus Technologies, Inc., Online Advanced Systems.

All entries for the weekly raffle draws will be collected at the close of business hours. A total of four (4) weekly raffle draws--2 draws per area grouping--will be held at a designated venue at 4 pm. There will only be one (1) winner per draw in each area grouping. All non-winning entries will automatically be included in the grand draw.

WEEKLY RAFFLE DRAWS

Deadline of Submission of Entries	Raffle Draw Dates	Area Grouping	Raffle Draw Venue	Prizes
March 6	March 12	Luzon/GMA	HP Head Office: 8/F Rufino Bldg. Ayala, Makati	Trip for (2) to Boracay, Aklan plus P15,000 pocket money
March 13	March 19	Visayas/ Mindanao	Publicis-Dialog Ofc: Door 18 Wag-wag Compound Pusok, Simenlo Cebu City	Trip for (2) to Pearl Farm, Davao plus P15,000 pocket money
March 20	March 26	Luzon/GMA	HP Head Office: 8/F Rufino Bldg. Ayala, Makati	Trip for (2) to Cebu plus P15,000 pocket money
March 27	April 02	Visayas/ Mindanao	Publicis-Dialog Ofc: Door 18 Wag-wag Compound Pusok, Simenlo Cebu City	Trip for (2) to Puerto Princesa, Palawan plus P15,000 pocket money

Note: All entries before the raffle draw will be kept at the Publicis-Dialog warehouse.
A nationwide Grand Raffle Draw will be held in HP Head Office 8/F Rufino Pacific Tower 6784 Ayala Ave., 1229 Makati City, Philippines on April 09, 2001. Deadline of dropping of entries will be at the close of business hours on April 03, 2001.

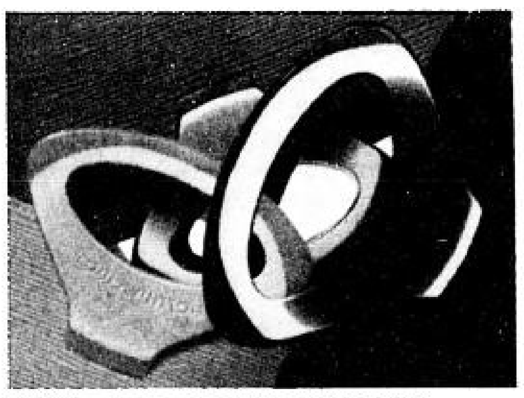
GRAND DRAW PRIZES

FIRST PRIZE WINNER:
Trip for two (2) to Bali, Indonesia plus US$500 pocket money

SECOND PRIZE WINNER:
Trip for two (2) Phuket, Thailand plus US$500 pocket money

All trip prizes will include two (2) round trip tickets, accommodations and pocket money, tax free. Trip prizes must be availed by July 3, 2001. Prizes are transferable but not convertible to cash. Winners can only win once. Winners drawn more than once in the Grand Draw will automatically win the prize with the highest cash value. Winners will be notified via press releases, registered mail and telephone. To claim the prize, winners must present at least one (1) valid ID (driver's license, company ID, valid passport) as well as the registered mail notification. Prizes may be claimed at HP Head Office 8/F Rufino Pacific Tower 6784 Ayala Ave., 1229 Makati City, Philippines, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Mondays to Fridays only. Look for Jun Juntilla or Betty Bonligao. All necessary travel taxes and documents (i.e. passport, etc.) will be arranged and paid for by the winners. Prizes not claimed within sixty (60) days from receipt of notification shall be forfeited in favor of the HEWLETT-PACKARD Philippines Corp. with prior approval from DTI. All employees of the Hewlett-Packard Philippines, distributors, dealers, resellers, its advertising & promotions agencies and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are not qualified to join.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0221 Series of 2001.



TONE on tone colors with brilliance that enhance the resin handles.

High style

WOMEN are acquiring more than just one classic bag, spending not only for investment or as an impulse, but to give their wardrobe a bright dash of color and shape.

Responding to this need, Louis Vuitton has come up with more fashionable changes for its Epi Z line.

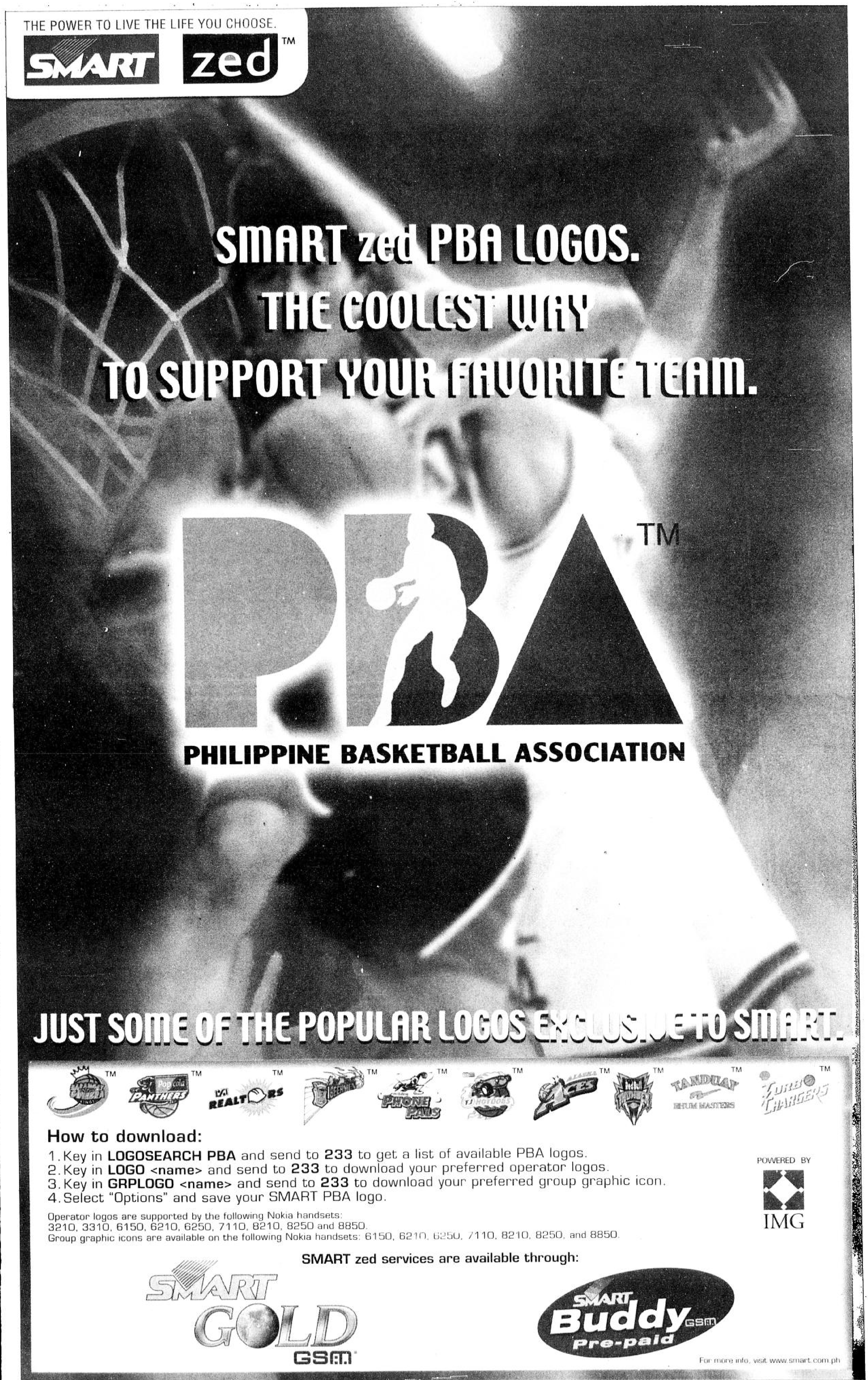
The classic Epi Z bags are reinvented, infused with luscious colors. In Lilac, Vanilla and Moka, Epi's latest rich warm color, Epi Z bags blend with the glitz and glamour of life in Manila.

The Epi Z bijou bag reflects warm elegance, a graded mix of tone on tone colors with a subtle iridescence that enhance its smooth resin handles. This crescendo of rich and luminous colors creates a unique handmade pattern on each handle.

Other Epi Z bags individually designed show the new colors at their best advantage.

In the Philippines, Louis Vuitton is located at the G/F 6750 Ayala Avenue, Makati City. Visit the website at www.vuitton.com.

BUCKET shape



THE POWER TO LIVE THE LIFE YOU CHOOSE.

SMART zed™

SMART zed PBA LOGOS. THE COOLEST WAY TO SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE TEAM.

PBA™

PHILIPPINE BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

JUST SOME OF THE POPULAR LOGOS EXCLUSIVE TO SMART.

How to download:

1. Key in **LOGOSEARCH PBA** and send to **233** to get a list of available PBA logos.
2. Key in **LOGO <name>** and send to **233** to download your preferred operator logos.
3. Key in **GRPLOGO <name>** and send to **233** to download your preferred group graphic icon.
4. Select "Options" and save your SMART PBA logo.

Operator logos are supported by the following Nokia handsets:
3210, 3310, 6150, 6210, 6250, 7110, 8210, 8250 and 8850.
Group graphic icons are available on the following Nokia handsets: 6150, 6210, 6250, 7110, 8210, 8250, and 8850.

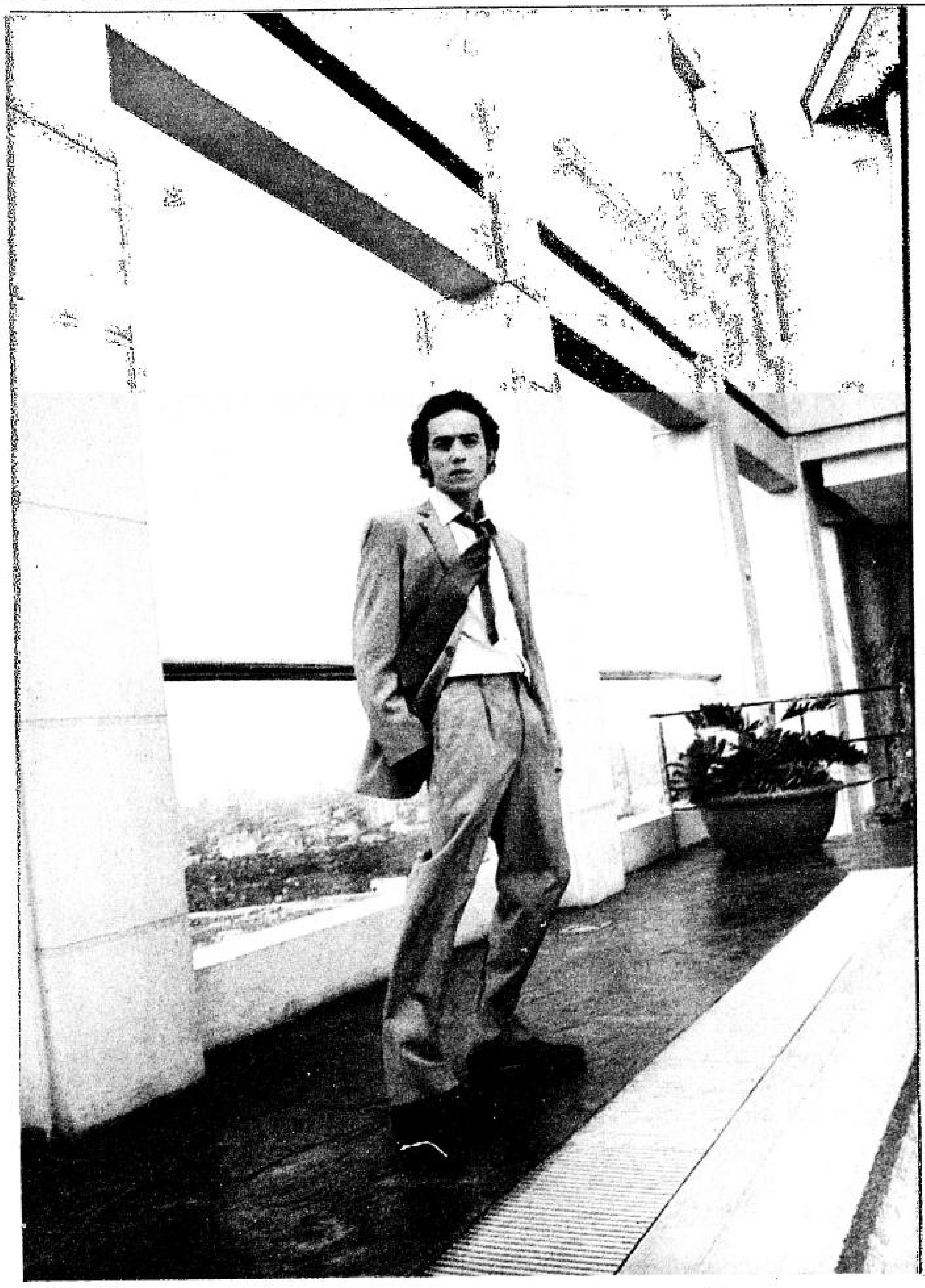
POWERED BY
IMG

SMART zed services are available through:

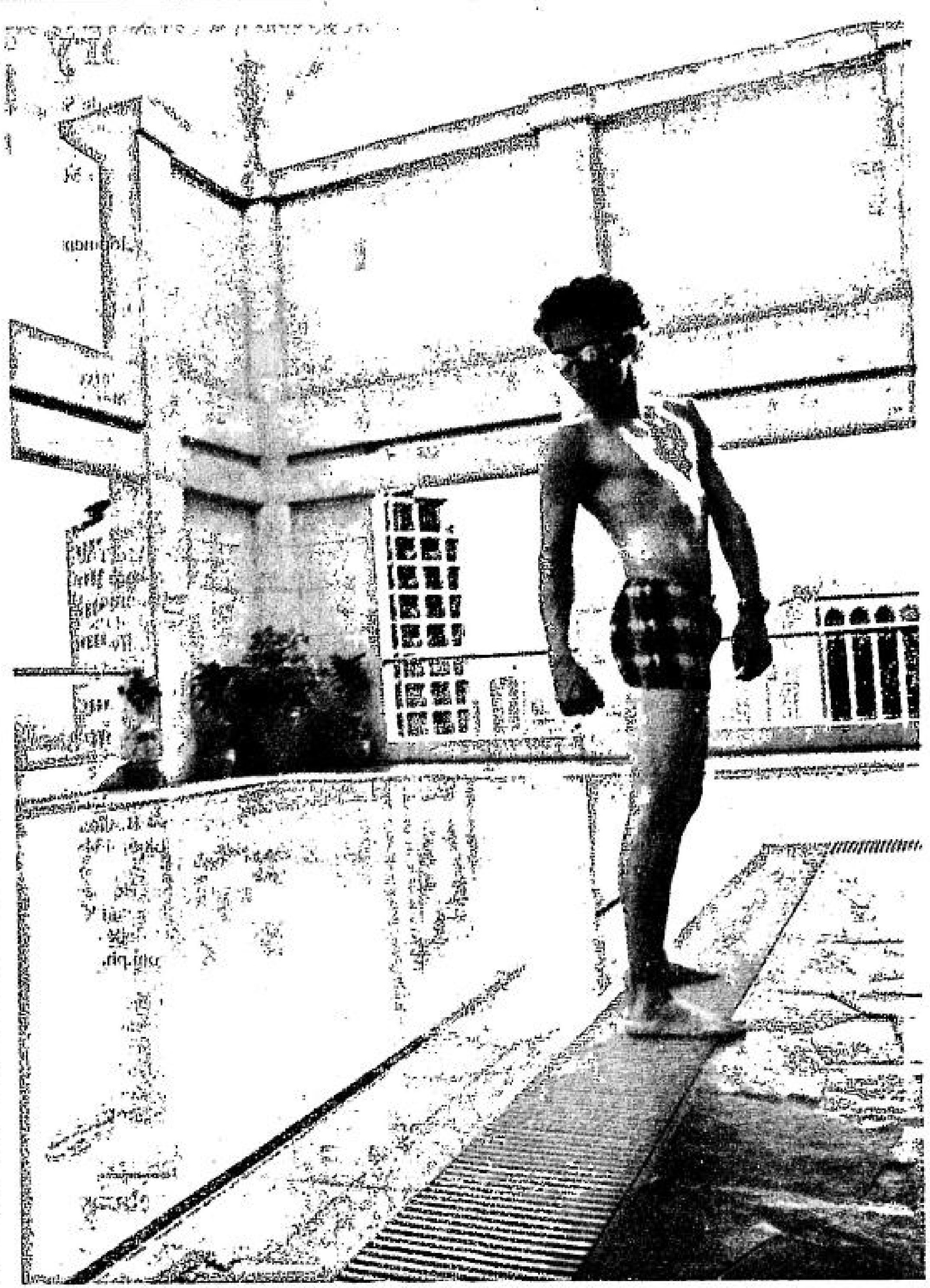
SMART GOLD GSM

SMART Buddy GSM Pre-paid

For more info, visit www.smart.com.ph



GRAY three-button Italian suit, lilac cotton pique shirt, purple water repellant tie by Marks & Spencer. Shoes by Bally



BLUE geometric print trunk, aqua blue Futura Universe goggle and Active Watch by Speedo

The metaphysics of Jeffrey Quizon

By Marge C. Enriquez
Photos by Wahoo Guerrero

JEFFREY Quizon, who calls himself an *artiste*, dresses up like one. He likes to experiment with hairstyles, from bald to fuzzy. Nonchalant about labels, he strides into the roofdeck of the City Garden Hotel, dressed in Kamuning finds and aviator shades from Fish.

In our exploratory talks, the young Quizon shows his penchant for philosophy and other artistic pursuits.

Brimming with ideas, Quizon's mind has yet to find its niche in the world.

He proved his acting mettle by winning the best supporting actor trophy in the Metro Manila Film Festival for "Markova: Comfort Gay" (he's a hot contender for the same award for the same movie in this summer's awards derby). Many interviews have mentioned his talent in photography, ranging from fashion pictorials to experimental ultraviolet pictures, as well as his skills in painting, filmmaking, composing, singing and organizing special events.

In May he will do a few scenes for Star Cinema's "Dekada '70." The movie is about the trials of a mother, played by Vilma Santos, her husband and four sons in the martial law era. Although Quizon's role is modest, an NPA who betrays the family, he is looking forward to the challenge.

On television, aside from appearing in "Okatokat," he will also be part of a new soap opera, "Biglang Sibol," which will be aired on Channel 7 on March 12.

Quizon conceptualized the twisted character. "It's gonna be Epoy. He's very flexible. He's good yet evil. He's evil but turns out good by the end of the day," he says.

The idiosyncratic nature of Epoy seems to be a reflection of Quizon whose nickname is Epy. When he was young his sister couldn't pronounce "Jeffrey," thus the monicker.

Following Dolphy

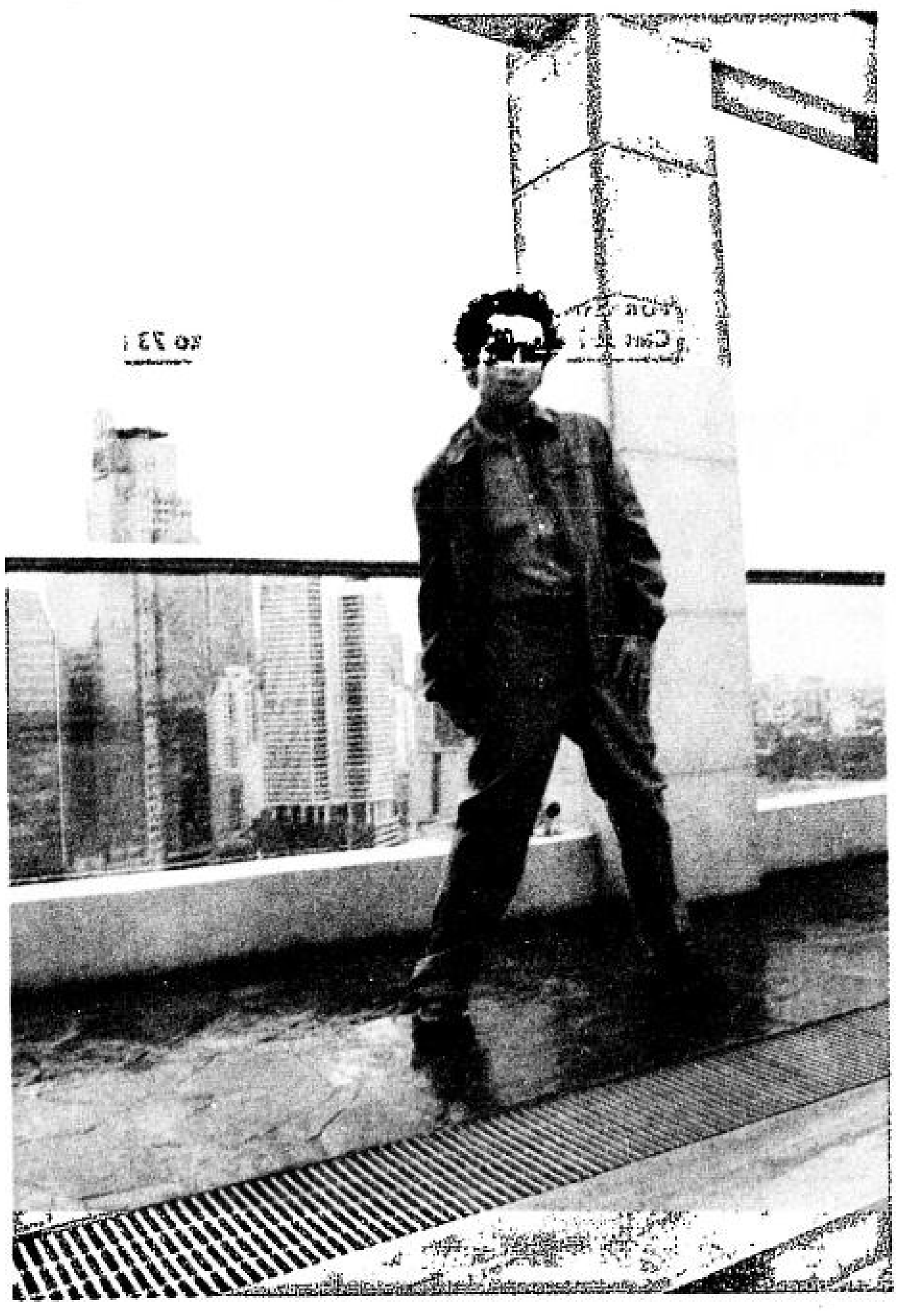
In the interview he reveals that he unleashed his violent and irrational streak in his younger days. Now, that energy is being transformed into something more positive.

This writer tried to avoid the subject of his fa-

THE METAPHYSICS/ p.E7

STYLING BY
RINA GO
GROOMING BY
JOJO ARJONA
FOR TENG ROMA,
EMPHASIS SALON,
ROCKWELL INFORMATION
CENTER

LOCATION: CITY GARDEN
HOTEL MAKATI'S
ROOFDECK.
SPECIAL THANKS
TO ARNOLD TENCE



CASUAL FRIDAY. Smoked blue polyester jacket by Marks & Spencer is worn over an azalea cotton polo and twig flat-front pants in stretch twill, both by A/X. Black footglove leather shoes with Velcro by Marks & Spencer

May bagong tahanan ang Jollibee – sa Vigan!

Ang langhap-sarap na inyong kaibigan, may tahanan na rin sa Vigan! Bukas na po ang kauna-unahang Jollibee sa Vigan, Ilocos Sur. Kaya matapos tanawin ang mga makasaysayang bahay rito, tuloy po kayo sa Jollibee kung saan at home ang panlasang Pilipino!

May Jollibee na rito – handog namin sa inyo!
Burgos St. Poblacion, Vigan City

Jollibee

Furniture store holds inventory sale

GEORGIAN Lane, maker of world-class 18th century-style furniture, is holding an inventory clearance sale. All items are discounted up to 70 percent. The items are on display at the 3/L Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati and at the G/F Alabang Town Center Expansion Mall. The sale will run until supplies last.

GOINGS-ON

PROMO. Anchor Milk drinkers have only until March 31 to submit their entries to Anchor Milk's "Brighter Futures Promo." The promo is done exclusively with the Mercury Drug Corp. Grand draw is on April 5. To join, collect and enclose in an envelope: either one (1) Anchor box top (180 g, 450 g, 250 ml or 1 l), or a can tin foil (800 g, 1.3 kg, 1.8 kg or 2.5 kg) and a Mercury Drug receipt of any Anchor Full Cream Milk Powder or UHT purchase. Then, write your name, address, phone number and the store of purchase on the back of the receipt, envelope, box top or tin foil. Drop boxes will be place at Mercury Drug stores nationwide.

ANNIVERSARY. The Luzonian Colleges (now MSEUF) High School Class '51 will hold its reunion on April 28-29 at Queen Margarette Court, Lucena City and Nawawalang Paraiso Hotel and Restaurant in Tayabas, Quezon. Call (042) 710-2816/4640 or 929-1107.

PROGRAM. All elementary and high school teachers are invited to attend the Life Sciences Program sponsored by the Department of Biology of UP Manila on April 4-6 and April 9-11. Call 526-5861.

HOMECOMING. The Communication Arts Department of Miriam College Foundation Inc., will have a grand alumni homecoming on March 24, at Miriam College, Katipunan Road, Loyola Heights, QC. Registration is at 8 a.m. Call 927-2421 local 263.

SEMINAR. The Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines invites you to a three-day seminar on E-Libraries to be held at the Venus Parkview Hotel, 19 Kisad Road, Burnham Park, Baguio City on April 4-6. Call Corazon at 524-9217, Shirley at 524-9740, Valentina at 893-9590 or Milagros at 521-7223.

TRADE FAIR. Philtrade Exhibits is hosting the Summer Trade Fair 2001 on March 23-26 at the Telecom Lane, 3/F Glorietta 2, Makati City. Call 820-7879/1570.

CONFERENCE. The Center for Alumnae Relations of Assumption College invites the public to attend its Third Series of Lenten Conferences on March 10, 16 and 17, at the Assumption Chapel, San Lorenzo Village, Makati City. Call 817-0757 or 894-3604.

RECOLLECTION. Santuario de San Antonio Parish in Forbes Park, Makati is presenting a series of Saturday morning recollections for the Lenten season. Weekly presentations are on March 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7 at the Parish Center.

SEMINAR. Inner Mind Development Institute is conducting a two-day intensive Inner Mind Development Seminar on March 10 and 11, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Room 308 Prince Plaza Building, 106 Legaspi St., Greenbelt, Makati City. Call 892-6806 or 810-7245.

POETRY CONTEST. The University of the Philippines Creative Writing Center with the Filipinas Heritage Library will hold "Love Out Loud 2," a walk-in poetry reading contest on March 16, 6:30-10 p.m. at the FHL, Makati Avenue, Ayala Triangle, Makati. The contest is open to all. Entries must be original. Call 922-1830 or 892-1801.

CHARISMATIC SEMINAR. The Institute for Pastoral Development is sponsoring a seminar for all Charismatic Prayer Communities dubbed "Leading Prayer Meetings Effectively" at the Institute of Social Order at Ateneo de Manila University on March 24, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 411-3146, 415-8713 or e-mail ipdevt @info.com.ph.

WORKSHOP. Author and composer Jim Paredes will offer his well-received workshop dubbed "Tapping the Creative Universe" at the Center for Health and Creative Arts (Chacra) on March 14, 16, 21, 23, 28 and 30, 6-8 p.m., at 144 B. Gonzales St., Loyola Heights, QC. Call 426-5368 or 434-5381.

STORYTELLING. Adarna House stages Kwentong Adarna: Summer Storytelling and Workshop for Kids on March 27-May 26. Call Odette or Ghie at 410-5200 or e-mail admin@adarna.com.ph.

SEMINAR. The International Catholic Program of Evangelization Philippine Center announces that the March "Proclaim" seminar, originally scheduled for March 9-11 has been moved to March 16-18. Dubbed "Proclaim: A Challenge to Youth," this will be held in Magallanes Village, Makati City. Call (632)852-6602.

The uniquely different Tagaytay relaxation spot!

- ▶ Swimming pool
- ▶ Children's playground
- ▶ Nipa huts
- ▶ Picnic tables, chairs, and umbrellas
- ▶ Pavilions

NATURE DISCOVERY

CAMP

- ▶ Barbecue stand
- ▶ Mini forest
- ▶ Rest stops at the slope
- ▶ Overnight camping grounds
- ▶ Rest rooms and shower rooms

FOR CAMPING, HIKING, BIKING, SOCIALS OR TEAM BUILDING
Call 527-2540, 527-0936 or 721-3971 to 73 for reservations.

35% OFF*

SOFA BY DAY
BED BY NIGHT

*Only for the whole month of March, get **35% discount** on our great sofa beds. Choose from several of Habitat's sensational fully upholstered sofas and we'll make a comfy sofa bed for you--in twin, double or queen sizes. Simply open it up and go from sofa to bed in a minute. Hurry, stocks are limited.*

Designs for Life
Habitat 25 years
LIFESTYLE CENTER

Pines cor. Sheridan Sts.
Mandaluyong City
Tels. 636-4115 / 636-5141
Fax 634-0865
Store hours: 9am to 6pm

*This discount does not apply to fabric. • Mattress included.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A3-061, Series of 2001

TOY WORLD
the great toy Sale
March 1-31
up to 50% OFF on selected items

Teletubbies Belt Bag
Bef. 399.75
Now 199.75

Pikachu Backpack
Bef. 899.75
Now 449.75

Sesame Street Giggle Pal
Bef. 199.75 ea
Now 99.75 ea

Fashion Magic Fingenail Fun Salon Set
Bef. 799.75
Now 399.75

Voltes V
Bef. 699.75
Now 349.75

Micro Man
Bef. 799.75
Now 399.75

50% OFF

Voltes V Spinning Top
Bef. 169.75
Now 84.75

Barbie Dinning Room
Bef. 599.75
Now 479.75

Eating Fun Kelly
Bef. 499.75
Now 399.75

Turbo Ranger Robo Racer
Bef. 1,699.75
Now 849.75

Turbo Ranger Divatox's
Bef. 849.75
Now 424.75

Laser Challenge Micro Max Blasters
Bef. 1,499.75
Now 749.75

20% OFF

Barbie and Kelly Nightwear
Bef. 499.75
Now 399.75

Sit N' Style Barbie
Bef. 679.75
Now 543.75

Polly Pocket
Bef. 1,499.75
Now 799.75

Macross Super Valkyrie
Bef. 799.75
Now 399.75

We've got it all for you!

SM DEPARTMENT STORE

Get a chance to WIN one (1) of 15 TOYOTA GRAND CRUISERS TOY CARS
15 INJUSA MOTO SUPER SCOOTERS

A minimum P300 purchase entitles you to a raffle coupon

Deadline for submission of entries: Closing store hour of March 31, 2001
Draw date: April 6, 2001 3:00pm
400 C. Palanca St. Quiapo Manila
Promo Period: March 1 - 31, 2001

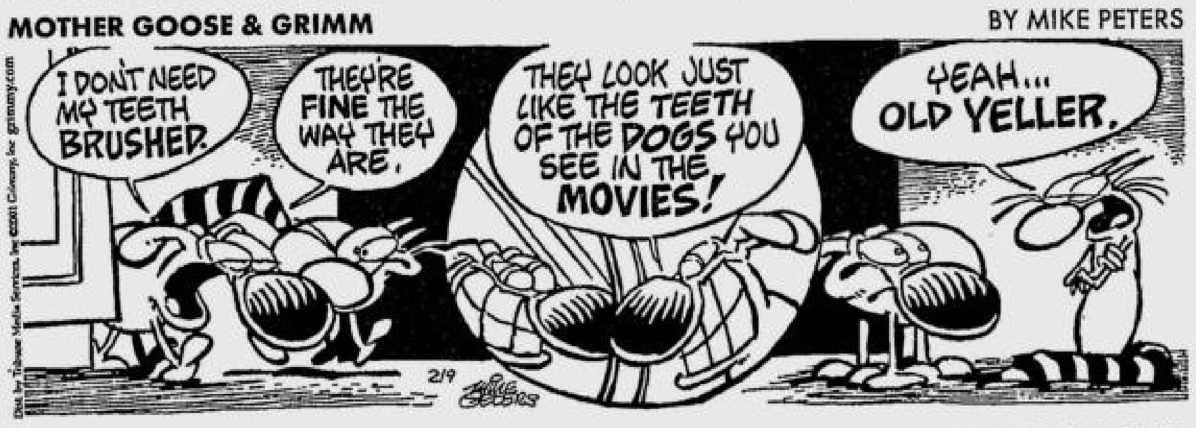
See mechanics poster for details

Per DTI-NCR Permit No 0200 / 0202 / 0204 Series of 2000

QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PIÑAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • ILOILO • CEBU

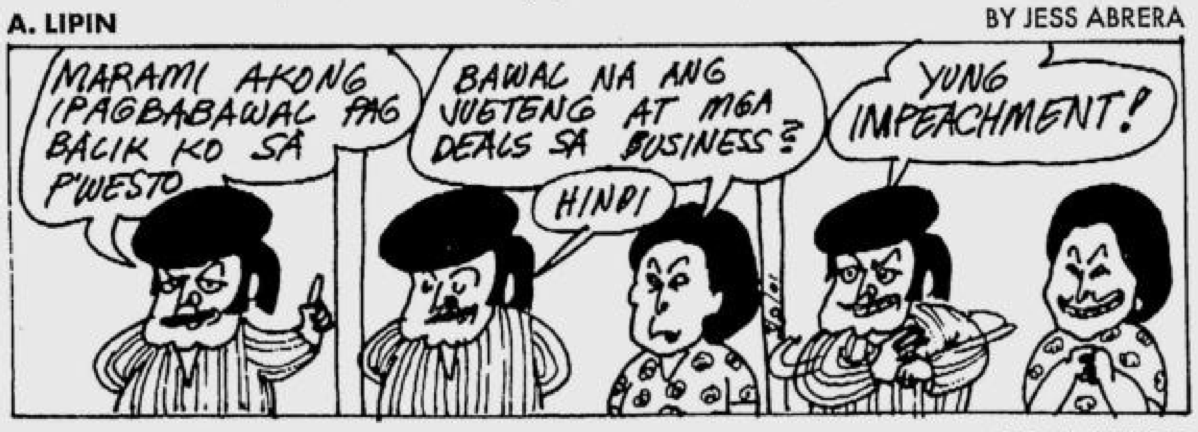
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


I DON'T NEED MY TEETH BRUSHED.
THEY'RE FINE THE WAY THEY ARE.
THEY LOOK JUST LIKE THE TEETH OF THE DOGS YOU SEE IN THE MOVIES!
YEAH... OLD YELLER.
2/9

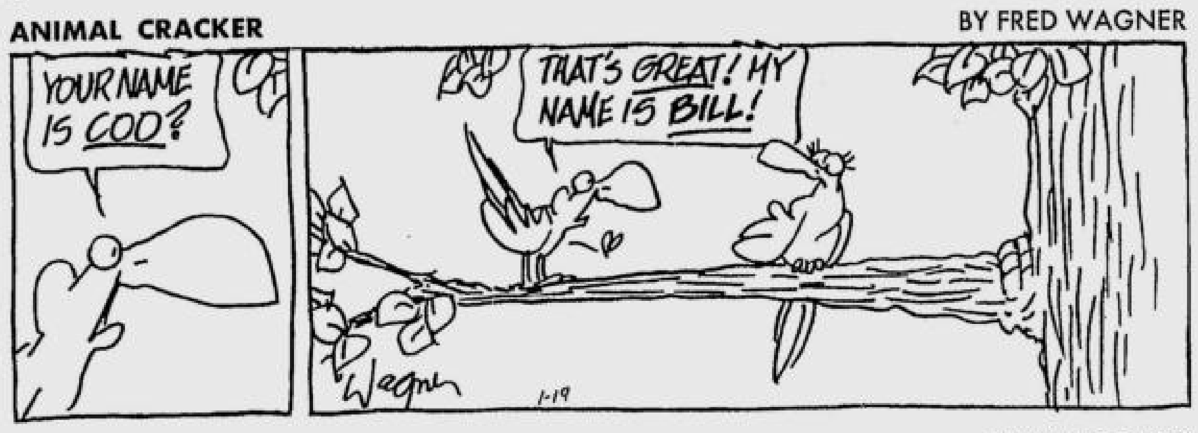
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


MARAMI AKONG IPAGBABAWAL PAG BALIK KO SA P'WESTO
BAWAL NA ANG JUETENG AT MGA DEALS SA BUSINESS?
HINDI
YUNG IMPEACHMENT!

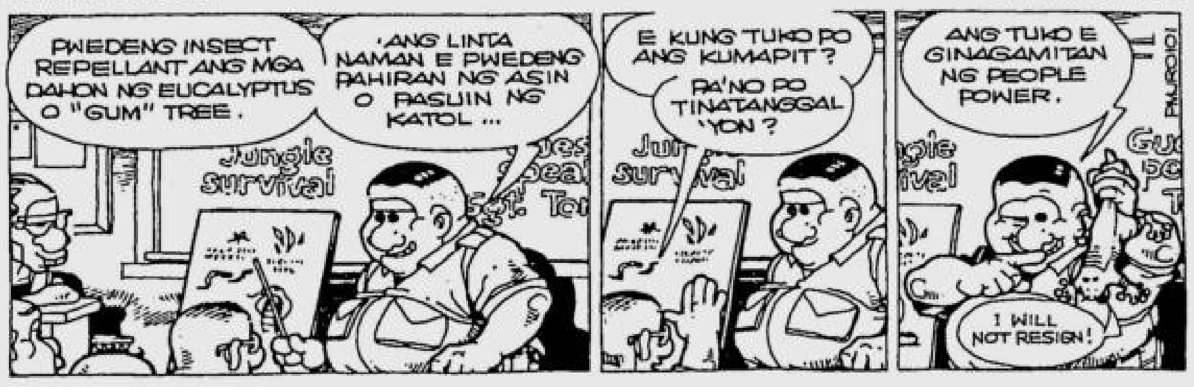
ANIMAL CRACKER

BY FRED WAGNER


YOUR NAME IS COO?
THAT'S GREAT! MY NAME IS BILL!
Wagner
1-19

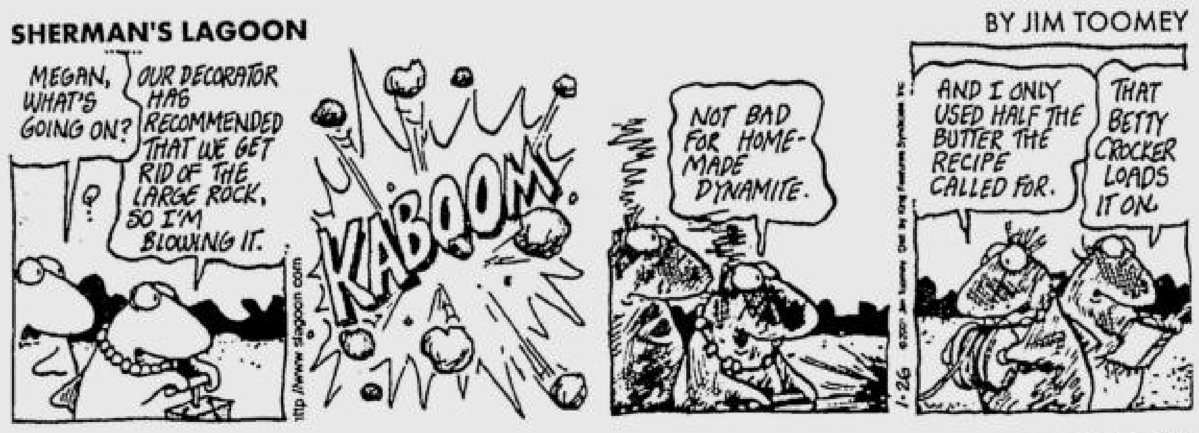
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


PWEDENG INSECT REPELLANT ANG MGA DAHON NG EUCALYPTUS O "GUM" TREE.
'ANG LINTA NAMAN E PWEDENG PAHIRAN NG ASIN O PASUIN NG KATOL ...
Jungle survival
E KUNG TUKO PO ANG KUMAPIT?
PA'NO PO TINATANGGAL 'YON?
ANG TUKO E GINAGAMITAN NG PEOPLE POWER.
I WILL NOT RESIGN!

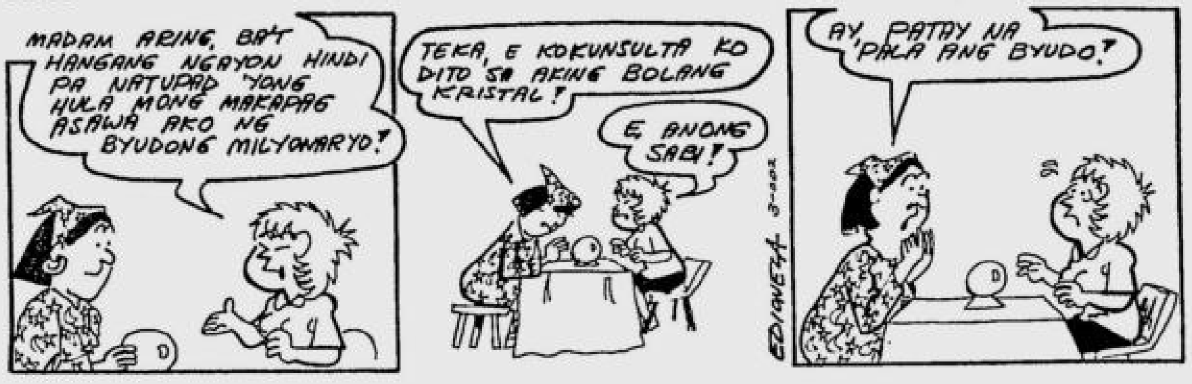
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


MEGAN, WHAT'S GOING ON?
OUR DECORATOR HAS RECOMMENDED THAT WE GET RID OF THE LARGE ROCK, SO I'M BLOWING IT.
KABOOM!
NOT BAD FOR HOME-MADE DYNAMITE.
AND I ONLY USED HALF THE BUTTER THE RECIPE CALLED FOR.
THAT BETTY CROCKER LOADS IT ON.
http://www.slagoon.com
1-26

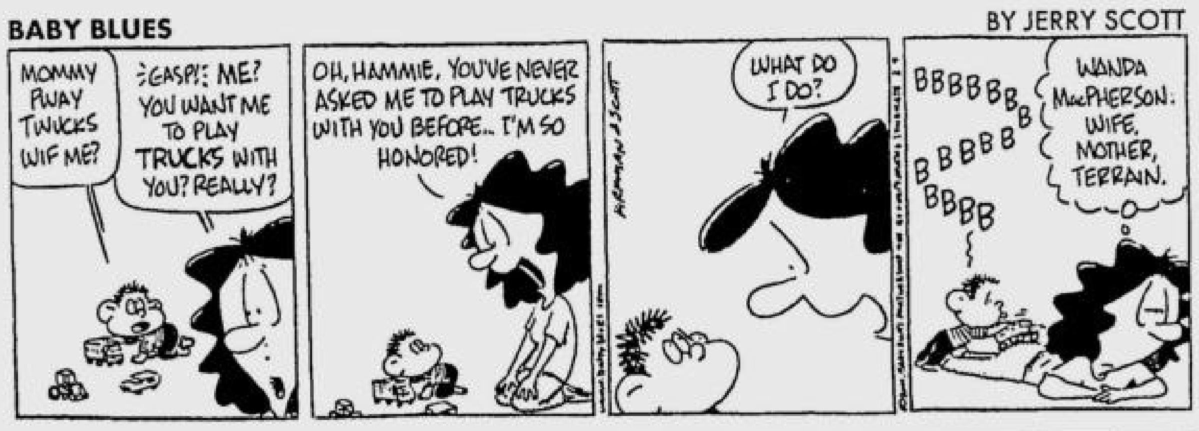
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


MADAM ARING, BA'T HANGANG NGAYON HINDI PA NATUPAD 'YONG HULA MONG MAKAPAG ASAWA AKO NG BYUDONG MILYONARYO?
TEKA, E KOKUNSULTA KO DITO SA AKING BOLANG KRISTAL!
E ANONG SABI?
AY, PATAY NA 'PALA ANG BYUDO?
EDIONELA

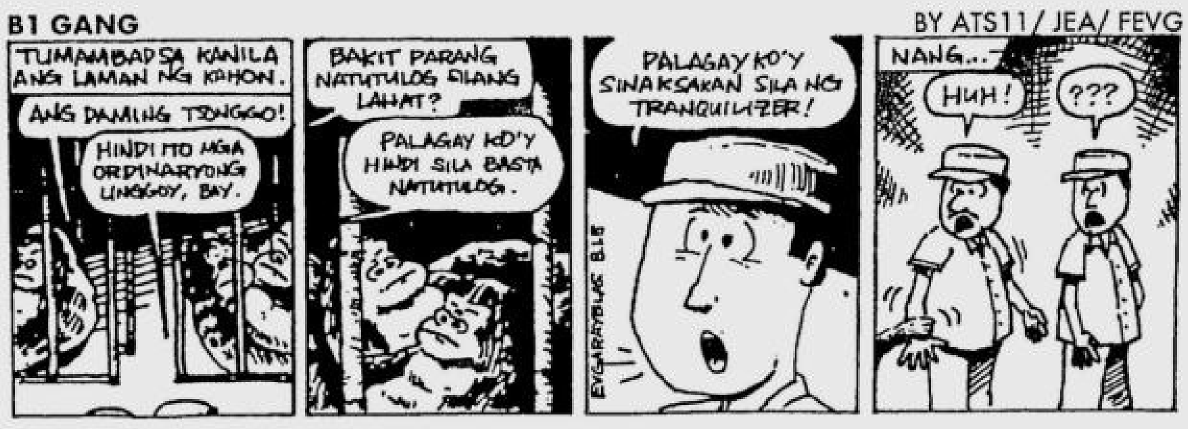
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


MOMMY PWAY TWUCKS WIF ME?
GASP! ME? YOU WANT ME TO PLAY TRUCKS WITH YOU? REALLY?
OH, HAMMIE, YOU'VE NEVER ASKED ME TO PLAY TRUCKS WITH YOU BEFORE.. I'M SO HONORED!
WHAT DO I DO?
BBBBBBB BBBBBB BBBB
WANDA MacPHERSON: WIFE, MOTHER, TERRAIN.

B1 GANG

BY ATS11/ JEA/ FEVG


TUMAMBAD SA KANILA ANG LAMAN NG KAHON.
ANG DAMING TSONGGO!
HINDI ITO MGA ORDINARYONG UNGGOY, BAY.
BAKIT PARANG NATUTULOG SILANG LAHAT?
PALAGAY KO'Y HINDI SILA BASTA NATUTULOG.
PALAGAY KO'Y SINAKSAKAN SILA NG TRANQUILIZER!
NANG...
HUH!
???

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Raul Julia, Mickey Spillane, Bobby Fischer, Lauren Koslow, Danny Sullivan, Juliette Binoche

Happy Birthday: Look before you leap. You may want to get into all sorts of new things this year, but you would be wise to bide your time. Competition and challenges can be expected, so prepare well and refrain from taking on too much. If you are willing to put all your efforts into the goals that mean the most to you, success can be achieved. Your numbers: 4, 17, 21, 24, 29, 35

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You should put extra effort into your work. You can finish projects early, which will bring you praise from superiors. Take work home, but be sure to spend some time with your mate.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Investments will be lucrative. You can help those less fortunate if you make the effort. Self-improvement programs will show quick results.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't get pushed into doing things you really don't have time for. You can bet that relatives will be willing to take you for granted. Say no, but don't start a family feud.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Be original in your approach to life, especially when it involves loved ones. Take care of the needs of those who depend on you. Look into your vacation plans. You need some rest and relaxation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You won't be happy with the purchases you make today. You're wise to keep your money in a safe place and refrain from going to the mall. Problems with children will be frustrating.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't make social promises you can't keep. You need to spend time with loved ones. Overtime will bring you the extra cash you need, but it will also cause discord at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You need time to reflect. Pamper yourself and re-evaluate your motives. You may need to change your direction if you want to be happy. You can make a difference if you go after your goals.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will receive sincere opinions from those who appreciate your creative talents. It is time to make suggestions to the groups in which you're involved. Take control of the situation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): This is not the time to throw your weight around. Listen to the others' complaints and take time to assess the situation before you make any comments. You can help others if you try.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Family outings will be more rewarding than you thought. You'll enjoy teaching others how to do things that are second nature to you. Your leadership qualities will come in handy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Hidden assets will pay off. You are up for wins, rewards or gifts. Plan to have friends over for an evening of socializing and entertainment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Minor accidents will prevail. Arguments with family members are evident. Do not lose your patience with lovers or children. This is not the day to make promises.

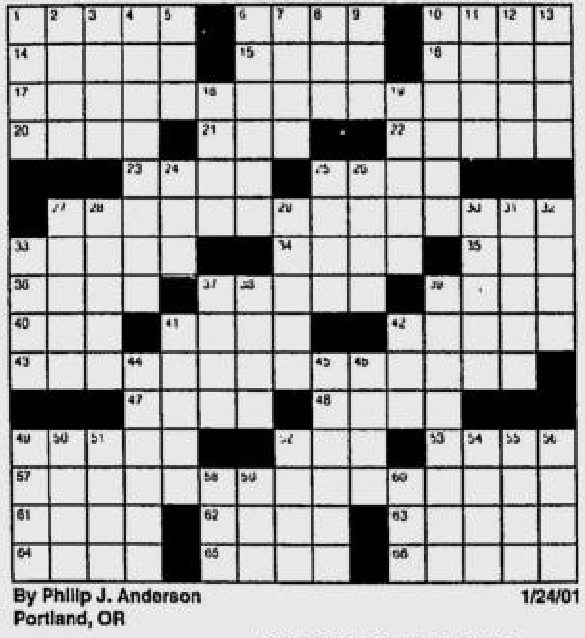
Birthday Baby: You play to win and you give everything your all. You are outgoing, determined and know exactly what you want to do. You will never back down and will refuse to let anyone stand in your way.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com

ACROSS
1 Speculative genre, briefly
6 Squalid neighborhood
10 Spanish painter
14 Gold measure
15 Relieve
16 Syrian, e.g.
17 16th-century Russian ruler
20 Out of __ (discordant)
21 Pindar poem
22 Picture in picture
23 Bulwer-Lytton heroine
25 "Auld Lang __"
27 9th-century West Saxon ruler
33 Approximately
34 Howard and Wood
35 POW possibly
36 Poet Sandburg
37 Work gangs
39 Phone
40 Mil. honor
41 Front of the calf
42 Bay window
43 9th-century Holy Roman Empire ruler
47 "Jane __"
48 Mine entrance
49 Feudal lord
52 Ms. Gardner
53 Eliel Saarinen's son
57 10th-century English ruler
61 Swerve
62 Pizzeria fixture
63 Make road repairs
64 Scotland __
65 Scottish caps
66 Idyllic gardens

DOWN
1 Cross-country gliders
2 Coypu or agouti
3 Persia, today
4 Unreal
5 Addams Family member
6 Ranked at Wimbledon
7 Past due
8 Employ
9 Sea of France
10 Reverse dive
11 Spheres
12 New Haven school
13 Fence the loot
18 Sharpen
19 Peals
24 Food scrap
25 Demonstrate
26 Desires
27 Disconcert
28 Writer Federico Garcia __
29 QB Dilfer
30 Laptop notes
31 Was sick
32 Statuesque
33 Aussie rockers
37 One-name star
38 Shine's partner?
39 Like the lunar surface
41 More crafty
42 Kimono sash
44 Esteem
45 Refuges
46 Wax-wrapped cheese
49 Eugene of "SCTV"
50 Concept
51 Wide-mouth pitcher
52 Pardon me
54 End of din?
55 Nolan or Meg
56 Ben and Bobby
58 Speck
59 Dam-building grp.
60 "Just the Way You __"



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR
1/24/01

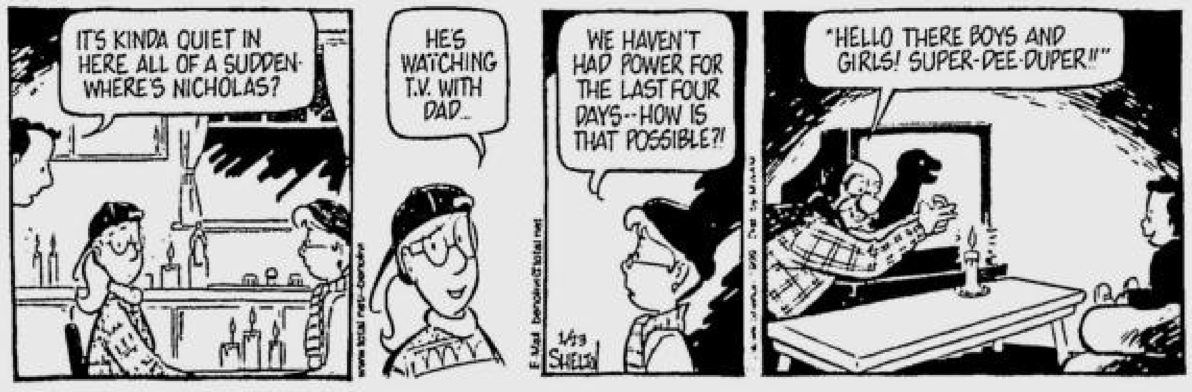
PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

C	A	T	O		M	A	T	S		A	S	C	O	T
O	M	A	R		A	L	I	T		B	U	L	G	E
S	O	D	B	U	S	T	E	R		A	M	O	R	E
T	Y	S		T	H	E	S	E		L	A	D	E	S
			S	T	E	R		E	P	O	C	H		
C	A	L	L	E	D		S	T	U	N		O	P	T
O	N	A	I	R		N	A	C	R	E		P	R	O
A	I	N	T		M	E	T	A	L		S	P	O	T
L	T	D		S	O	W	E	R		S	T	E	V	E
S	A	L		M	O	L	D		B	L	A	R	E	D
		U	N	I	T	Y		M	O	A	N			
C	A	B	O	T		W	H	A	T	S		M	I	A
O	R	B	I	T		E	A	R	T	H	L	I	N	G
R	E	E	S	E		D	I	D	O		U	R	G	E
K	A	R	E	N		S	L	I	M		G	E	E	S

(C)2001 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved
1/24/01

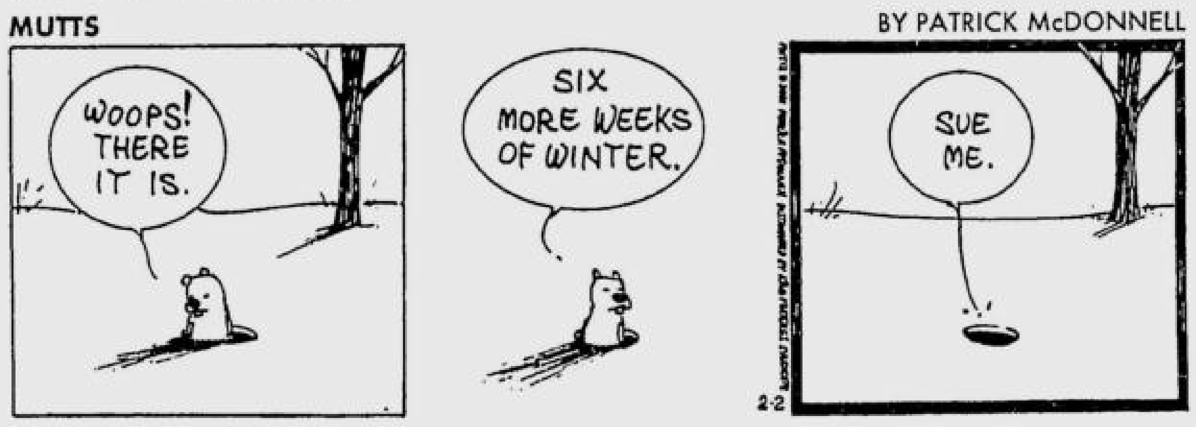
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


IT'S KINDA QUIET IN HERE ALL OF A SUDDEN. WHERE'S NICHOLAS?
HE'S WATCHING T.V. WITH DAD...
WE HAVEN'T HAD POWER FOR THE LAST FOUR DAYS--HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?!
"HELLO THERE BOYS AND GIRLS! SUPER-DEE-DUPER!!"
1/13 SHELTON

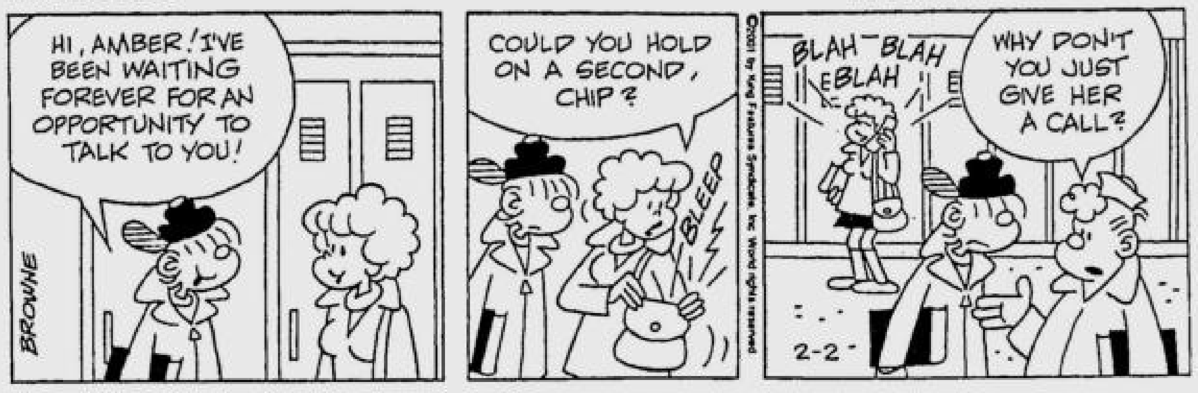
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


WOOPS! THERE IT IS.
SIX MORE WEEKS OF WINTER.
SUE ME.
2-2

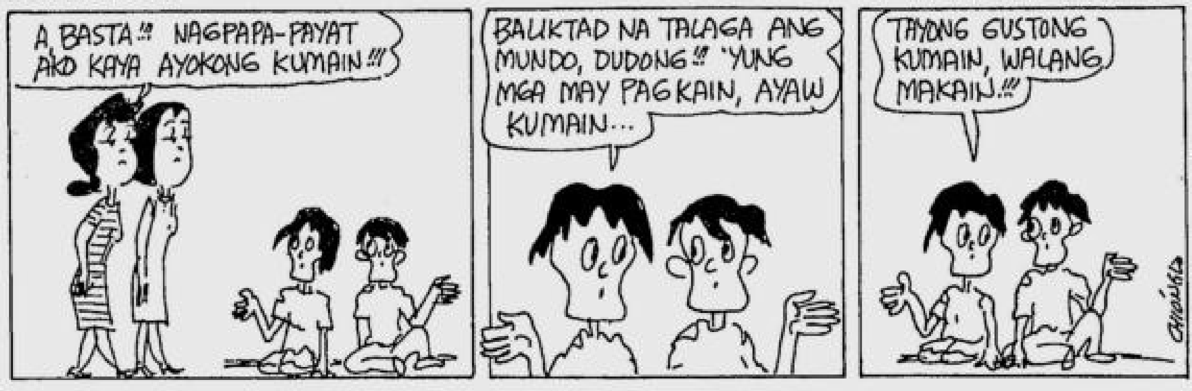
HI AND LOIS

BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER


HI, AMBER! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOREVER FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO YOU!
BROWNE
COULD YOU HOLD ON A SECOND, CHIP?
BLEEP
BLAH BLAH BLAH
WHY DON'T YOU JUST GIVE HER A CALL?
2-2

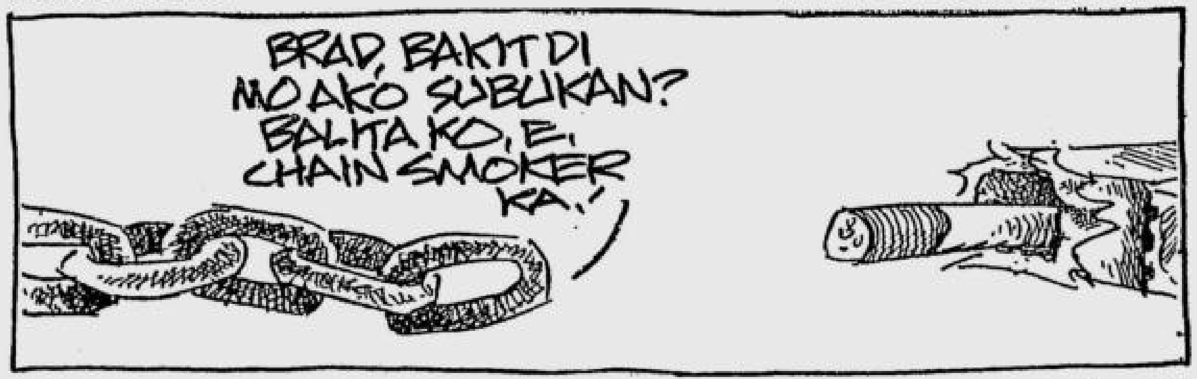
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO

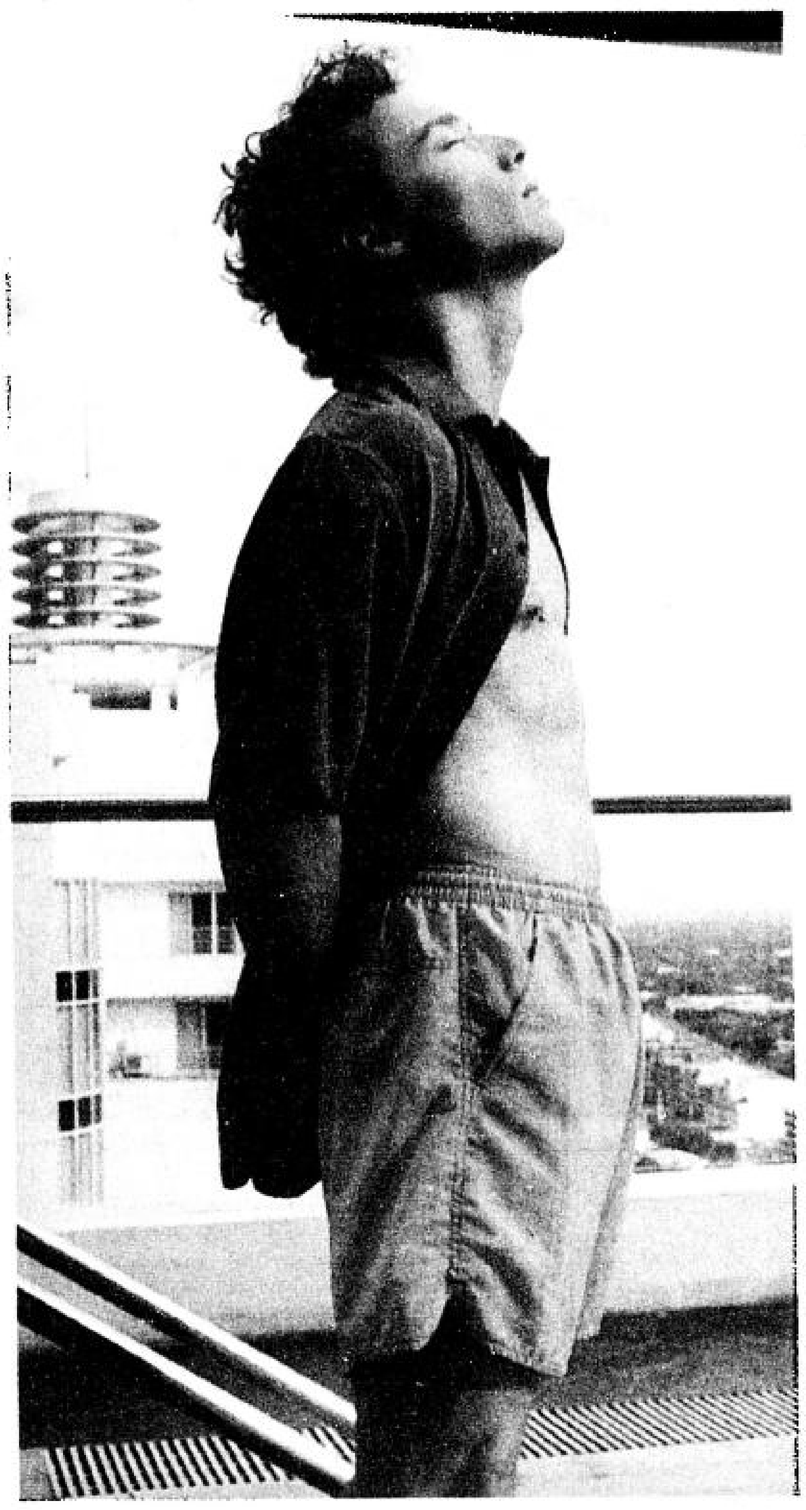

A BASTA!! NAGPAPA-PAYAT AKO KAYA AYOKONG KUMAIN!!!
BALIKTAD NA TALAGA ANG MUNDO, DUDONG!! 'YUNG MGA MAY PAGKAIN, AYAW KUMAIN...
TAYONG GUSTONG KUMAIN, WALANG MAKAIN!!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK NI TITO

BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING


BRAD, BAKIT DI MO AKO SUBUKAN? BALITA KO, E, CHAIN SMOKER KA!

The metaphysics of Jeffrey Quizon



JEFFREY'S version of Dolphy's *puruntong* look. China-blue silk shirt by Marks & Spencer and lime green beach shorts by Speedo

(From page E4)

mous father. But somehow, the topic was unavoidable, considering Dolphy is an institution.

Asked if he had always wanted to be an actor like his dad, Quizon replies, "Everybody in the family is an actor in his own right. Almost everyone pretended to be my father or confronted themselves in the mirror and asked how does my father become my father. How does he act or create those funny faces? Everybody studied from him. Everybody wanted to do what he did or at least be part of it," he says.

"I have my own craft," Epy says. "I have my own goals and aims in life. With my father's art, I always ask, 'Do I want to be an actor?' If you come to think of it, he's not just an actor. He's not just an icon. He's a versatile artist. He can dance, he can write, he can sing. Whatever he puts his mind into, he can do.

"I was telling myself that my goals were different. But as I grew older, what do I do? I sing, I act, the art is very open."

Quizon started movie acting at 17, doing bit roles, albeit puffball, in the movies produced by his father or his brother, Eric Quizon. He would only accept offers from other companies if the role were consequential.

He eventually did things that he enjoyed. "I live by the day. If I wake up today, I'd get my palette, paint brushes, canvas and paint. I'd focus myself into it. When I want to shoot, I'd just get my camera."

Young at 28, Quizon still has to attain his dreams. "When I leave this life I want to be remembered for something I created people can study and learn from."

An example is his ultraviolet photography, which Quizon discovered by accident.

He was toying with his camera and films and some neon glow paint. When he saw the contact prints, he was awed. Last year, he had 10 exhibits and got offers from people to buy his work. Even when somebody quoted six figures, he wouldn't part with them because they were personal.

The scene-stealing actor of 'Markova: Comfort Gay' ruminates on being the son of the King of Comedy, his days of rebellion, his art, his existential joust with God, and the cosmology of his nipple ring

Not scared

He's always in search for truth and beauty in their most abstract forms, alive to ideas with consequences that are far-reaching.

Quizon cites his openness as his foremost virtue. "Whether it's a problem, something that would hurt me or spite me, I'm open to everything," he says. "I'm not scared of facing life. Sometimes you're up, sometimes you're down. It doesn't matter whether you're up or down, it's how you deal with it. Being open makes me deal with it. Instead of being negative, I make it positive."

Asked to cite anecdotes in his life, Quizon tends to answer rhetorically, a typical Aquarian trait.

He lives by this verse he formulated with his brother for one of his exhibits. "As we unmask ourselves, ripples of self-expression are created, and our dreams become real where truth and life are related."

He explains, "We can never know what we want if we don't know who is wanting. We have a lot of wants, but if we don't know who we are, we have a lot of wants that we don't really want."

The verse is about realizing one's true identity and working within limitations. That has always been his challenge as the son of an institution.

Comparisons

"Being the son of Dolphy is not an easy task," Epy says like a confession. "Anyone in the Philippines would know him or experience him. A person who's 90 would have seen him in a movie. I'm just the son of this guy who is an institution. I'll always be branded as the son."

So what's wrong with that?

"There's nothing wrong with that. It's just that I'm my own person. I have my own dreams, goals and aspirations. In this business that I'm in, they say you're just the son. You'll never be the father. I know that. But being the son has a lot of disadvantages. Everybody knows about your life even if you don't want to be in the limelight. People would know about my secrets. Family problems would be out in the newspapers. I'd go to school and my classmates would know about the problems. Even if you want to be secretive, people would talk about it in front of you. The biggest crisis was growing up and asking, 'Why am I a part of this?'"

He admits he could be rash, throwing caution to the wind and causing situations that are self-destructive. This blind spot brings him his share of pain. In his younger days, he almost stabbed and shot someone on three different occasions because he had blacked out.

"I had an identity crisis. I tried almost everything. I had been bad. In a lot of ways I corrected mistakes in my life. I grew up. Everytime I commit a mistake, it's not for me. Then you learn. The next time you're in front of this thing, you say no, whether it's drugs, alcohol or *yosi*."

Asked if he did drugs, the reply is in the clouds:

"Let's put it this way, I don't have to be drugged to be high with life. I don't have to succumb to temptations to be high in life. Being high is to accept and agree to life."

To overcome his demons, he became more conscious of himself, his choices and his destiny.

"I had questioned my faith for a long time—since I was in high school. Ever since I got interested in philosophy classes. I questioned His existence. A few months ago, I was questioning my faith in front of the mirror. I was going through one of my difficult stages. Is there really a God? I looked in the mirror. There was a storm. The next day I woke up around 9 a.m. I was in the middle of Makati. I had water in my room up to my knees. It ruined all my photographs and my computer. Instead of feeling bad, I looked up and said, 'You flicked your finger again just to remind me you're there. I questioned Him the night before and He flicked His finger. That was the clincher."

Nipple ring

After posing around the poolside, Quizon climbs up the ledge and mimics the dance scene from "Markova." He leaves his shirt unbuttoned, revealing a ring pierced on his left nipple. On seeing the quirky accessory, Rina Go, our stylist for the day, shrieks.

Obviously, the ring is a manifestation of anger and rebellion. "Uhm, I went through that stage as a young man, like what I said I had a lot of questions with life. Question of emotions, from pain, from happiness, from all those emotions. The nipple ring is the sign of question or a battle scar. It's still there to remind me that life is not all that good. One is pierced and the other is not, it's the balance of everything."

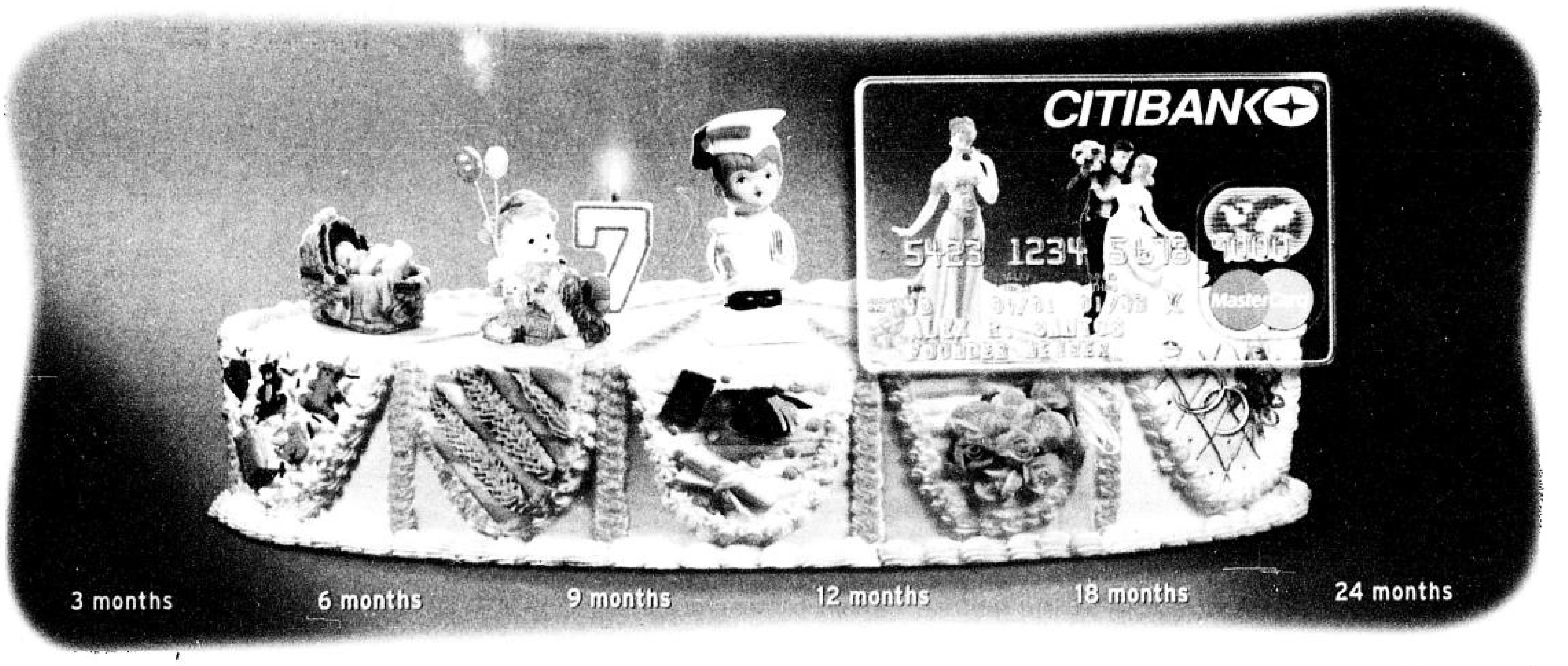
He also pierced his tongue once. Asked what it was like kissing a girl with a tongue ring, he replies, "Uhm, it's more of like what is it like to a woman being kissed with a tongue ring. With me it's just the same. It's like you have a toy in your tongue with the rattling sound that hits your teeth. But I don't suggest that. It's going to break your teeth. So I took it off."

With his show-biz pedigree, the angular jaws and chiseled profile, the young Quizon could easily attract women. "I wouldn't say they would run after me. I was very lucky in love. I had the pleasure of knowing a lot of people, and experiencing them in a lot of ways—spiritually, mentally and physically. They give me more knowledge of life—not just women but everyone, my friends, my parents. I value friendship a lot. That's what matters the most."

Yes, that matters, next to being individualistic and being known as someone other than being the son of Dolphy.

A member of citigroup

It's not just a Credit Card



It's celebrating the most memorable events at your favorite party places.

Now, more merchants are accepting PAYLITE! You can start enjoying the convenience of PayLite's longer, lighter installment terms for your party needs -- be it your child's birthday, your sister's debut or your parent's golden anniversary! Visit these establishments today!

Only from Citibank. Where Money Lives.

PayLite
INSTALLMENT PLAN
The longer, the lighter!

For more details, please call 24-Hour CitiPhone at 995-9999 in Metro Manila, 234-9999 in Metro Cebu, or 1-800-1-888-9333 from other provinces.

And to kick off the party, we've arranged special freebies and discounts for you until December 31, 2001!

CEBU CITY Marriott HOTEL
15% discount on food & beverage rates applicable in Garden Café, Palm Lounge & through room service
10% discount on private functions, birthdays, anniversaries and weddings

CEBU MIDTOWN HOTEL
Free overnight stay for two (2) persons for food & beverage bill worth P18,000 per function

CEBU PLAZA HOTEL
For a minimum of 4 persons availing buffet lunch or dinner, 1 person gets free buffet meal
Complimentary cake for birthdays, weddings and baptisms
Complimentary wine for shower & stag parties

CENTURY IMPERIAL PALACE SUITES QUEZON CITY
5% discount on banquet rates*
35% discount on published room rates with free breakfast

DISCOVERY Suites
5% discount on banquet rates

Dusit Hotel Nikko
5% discount on all banquet rates for a minimum charge of P50,000*

HOTEL REMBRANDT
5% discount for weddings, seminars, debut & other social functions

JADE GARDEN
Free P500 gift certificate

KIDS WORK
For packages A, B and C, free entrance for 5 additional kids
Corkage fee waived for 1 dish

KIMPURA
Free P500 gift certificate

Lagunas
5% discount on food bill only

La Primavera RISTORANTE ITALIANO
10% discount on total food & beverage bill

MANDARIN ORIENTAL MANILA
5% discount on banquet rates
Corkage fee waived for 5 bottles of wine
70% discount on room accomodation if booking is paid in full 45 days before the event*

MANILA DIAMOND HOTEL
5% discount on banquet rates and 1 gift certificate for an overnight stay in an Executive Suite if you choose to avail of our Social Function Package*

MANILA GALLERIA SUITES
Automatic upgrade to Studio Suite for banquet function with a complimentary gift certificate for Deluxe Room

Marco Polo SEAFOOD GARDEN
5% discount on all food items only

MARIBAGO BLUEWATER BEACH RESORT
Room for only $90 with breakfast
1-hour use kayak
Free massage for 15 mins.

PEKING GARDEN
Free P500 gift certificate

Shangri-La's Mactan Island Resort CEBU, PHILIPPINES
Complimentary 1 bottle of wine*
Complimentary gift certificate for two (2) persons for a buffet at the Garden Patio*

TAMBULI
20% discount on published room rates
10% discount on food & alcoholic drinks

THE HERITAGE
5% discount on food & beverage bill for functions worth P100,000 to P199,999
10% discount on food & beverage bill for functions worth P200,000 and above

Little gym
10% discount for all birthday packages and programs*

WATERFRONT CEBU CITY HOTEL
5% discount on food & beverage bill at a minimum P400/head
10% discount on room rental
1 free overnight stay for a minimum banquet bill of P30,000

THE WESTIN PHILIPPINE PLAZA MANILA
5% discount on banquet or catering services*

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0181, Series of 2001

CITIBANK

Rubdown to universal peace

Massage employs the fundamental healing practice: touch and the connectedness it fosters

THE POWER of touch is the basis for healing practices worldwide. Traditionally the laying down of hands conveys healing energy, an idea expressed through a wide range of disciplines. Even in the aesthetic sense, we can benefit from the gift of sense, using hands to stroke or rub can relieve tension and rejuvenate both body and mind.

The power of the massage lies not just in the physical sensation of the masseuse or in facials, in the aesthetician or the client, but in the connection and security it fosters between the two persons.

Facial nonpareil

Mila S. Co has been doing facials for 34 years now. She built her clientele when she did facials for La Prairie at Mondragon. When the company got the rights to sell Shiseido in the early '80s, she did the facials for the Shiseido beauty center. Now that Shiseido is no longer carried by Mondragon and will be relaunched by another company, Mila continues her work at Franck Provost Facial Care Center (122 Jupiter St., Bel-Air, Makati City; 895-3401to -03). Mila combines the technology of the West with the massage techniques and products of the East.

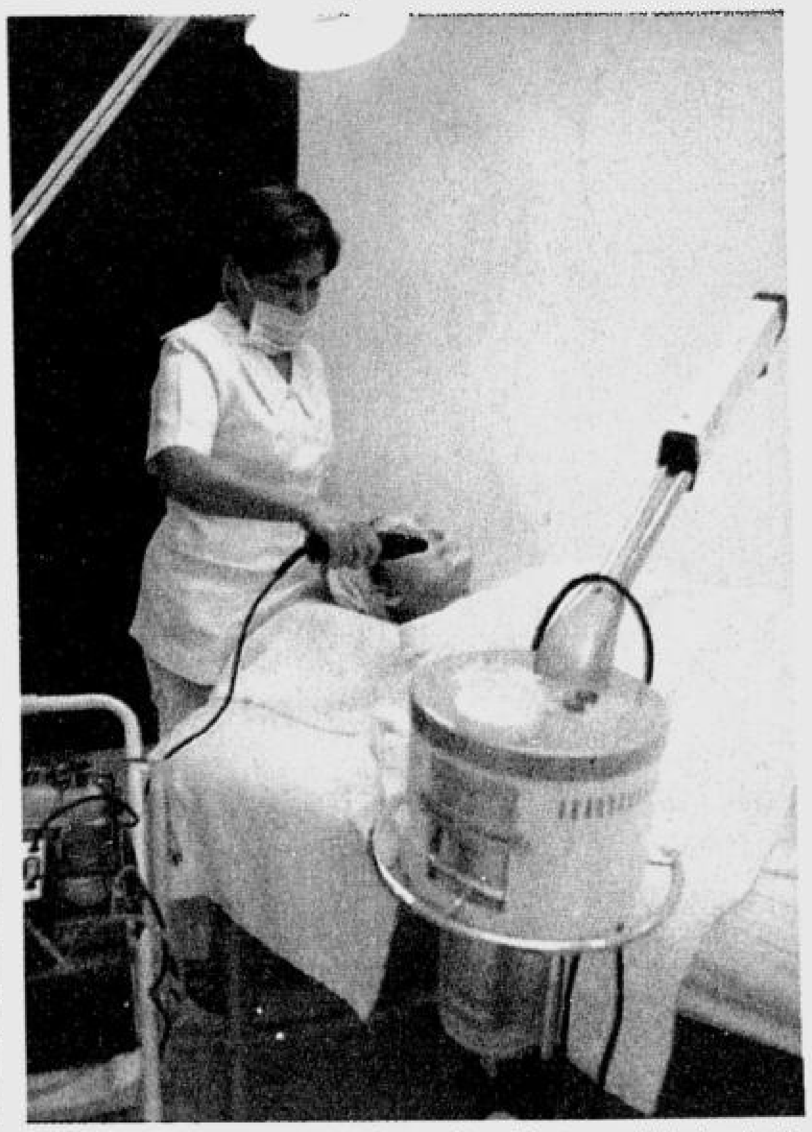

MILA Co combines Eastern and Western techniques at Franck Provost.

PHOTO BY JOHNNY VILLENA

For a full facial, she uses a roller brush to cleanse the face. She steams it to open the pores and uses fine instruments to remove blackheads and whiteheads and acne. A suction device removes the dirt that has been clogging the skin. Then the client gets zapped with a laser to close the pores, disinfect and smoothen the fine lines. After a hot towel treatment, the face and neck are covered with a deep cleansing and moisturizing mask. The mask is removed with Evian water. Finish off with the skin softeners and moisturizers and you're refreshed.

It's not only the procedure that makes it one of the best facials in town. Mila gives a sensitive, gentle and thoughtful facial massage. She looks after each client's skin as if it were her own. More than anything, any client will admire Mila for her unflagging dedication to her career.

Balinese savvy

At Emphasis Salon (Rockwell Information Center, Estrella Street, Makati, City; 898-0802/0818 to -19), owner Teng Roma has imported two Balinese masseuses to give clients a wonderful experience. Whether you're suffering from mild tendinitis or just two much tension from work, the Balinese massage will do wonders. Even if the masseuses have never studied anatomy or kinesiology, they can detect how a pain in your body is connected to a hidden tissue.

As soon as you enter the massage room, you're given a robe and a pair of slippers. Then an assistant will apply warm towel compress on your face to let you relax. After you've unwound, you disrobe and get the restorative massage. You're not only becalmed by the rhythm of the massage strokes but also absorbing in relaxation the Balinese lady's positive energy.

The massage dispels the toxins that congest our veins, aiding the blood flow to your heart. The lymph drainage is helped because the massage discharges lactic acid that builds up during exercise. The endorphin production is activated, making you less vulnerable to pain.

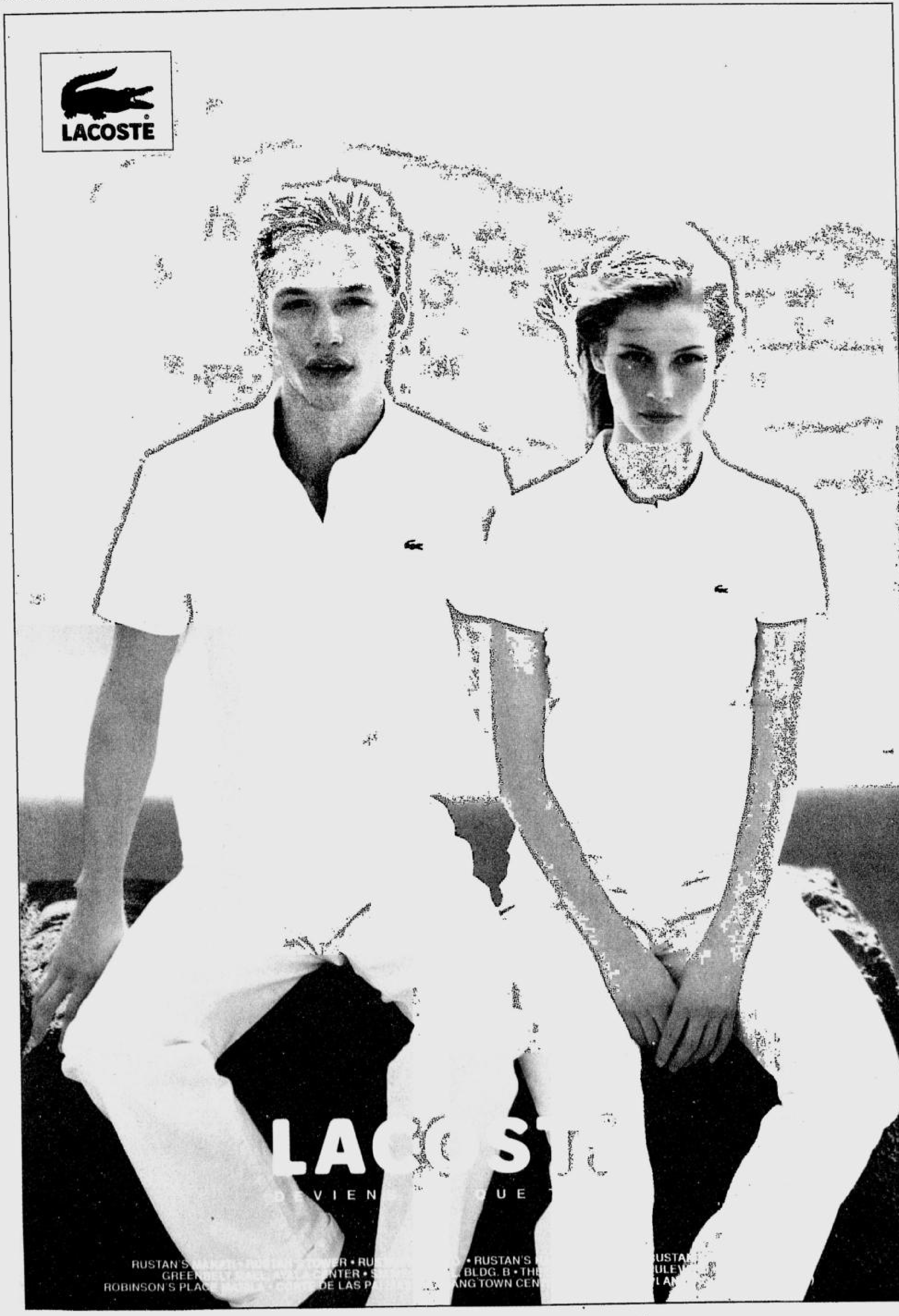
Marge C. Enriquez

DESIGNER Renée Salud gets a good rubdown from the Balinese masseuse.

THE ATTENDANT spreads *lulur*, a natural body scrub, and gives Salud a bath.

PHOTOS BY BETOY JOHNSON

Little Caesars pizza!pizza!
Sunroast CHICKEN
898-7777
www.bringmenow.com
WE DELIVER
FOOD! FUN! FAST!



LACOSTE
LACOST
DEVIEN QUE
RUSTAN'S · RUSTAN'S TOWER · RU · RUSTAN'S · RUSTAN
GREEN · CENTER · BLDG. B · THE · ULEV
ROBINSON'S PLAC · DE LAS P · ANG TOWN CEN

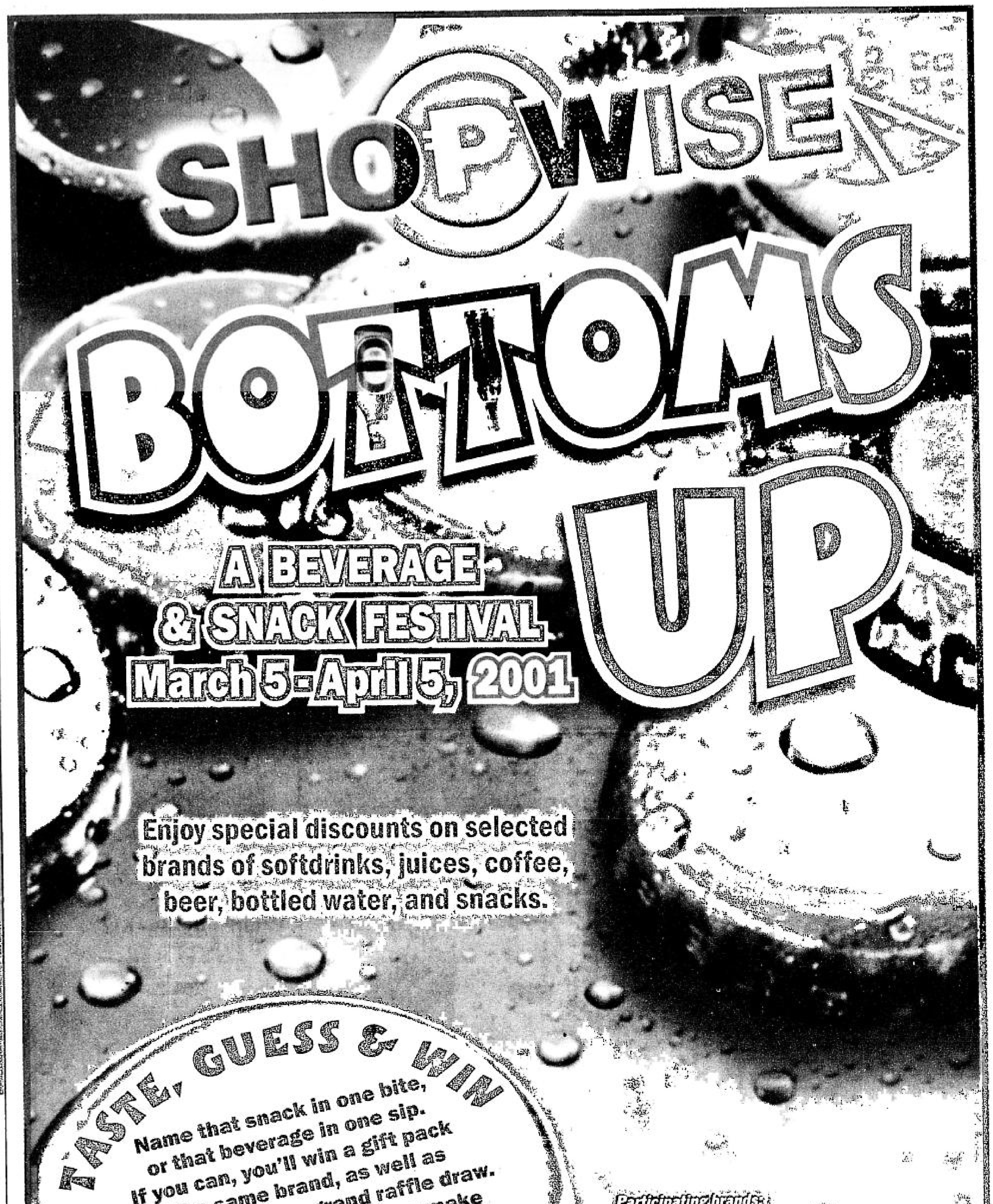
LIFESTYLE Home

icc.communications
in cooperation with the
PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES
present
JOBS ON AIR
TALKS ABOUT PEOPLE & WORK
Sundays 3:00 - 5:30 p.m. / DWSS AM 1494 khz
Hosted by: MR. BARBIE L. ATIENZA
1998 President
Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP)

A garden as work of art

(Story on page F6)

PROVINCIAL charm



SHOPWISE
BOTTOMS UP
A BEVERAGE & SNACK FESTIVAL
March 5 - April 5, 2001

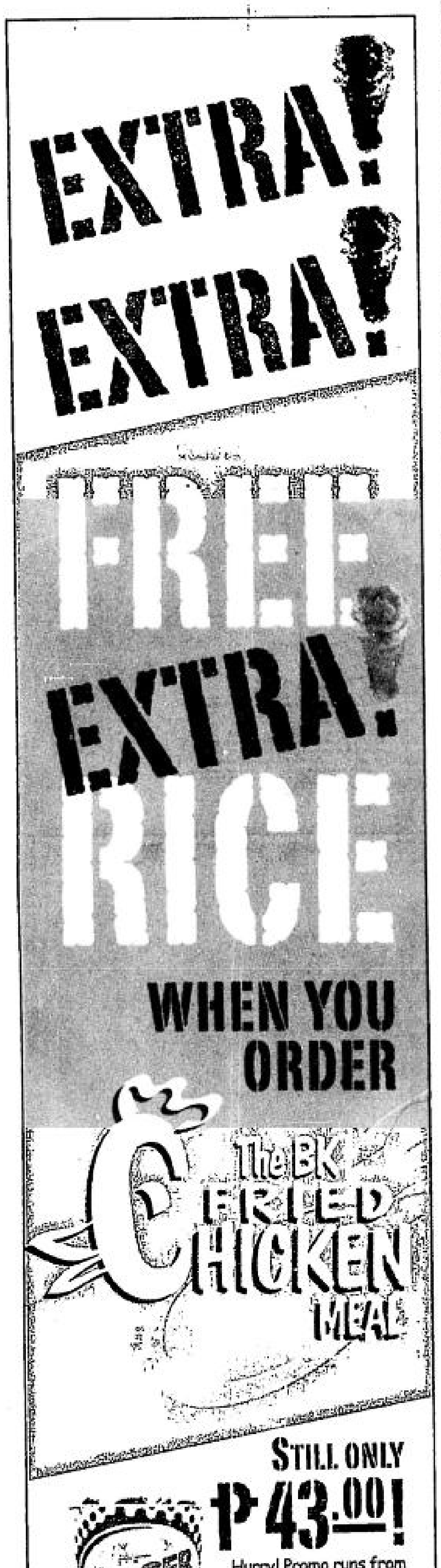
Enjoy special discounts on selected brands of softdrinks, juices, coffee, beer, bottled water, and snacks.

TASTE, GUESS & WIN
Name that snack in one bite, or that beverage in one sip. If you can, you'll win a gift pack of the same brand, as well as bigger prizes in the grand raffle draw. Every P150.00 purchase you make of any of the participating snack or beverage brands allows you to join the challenge.

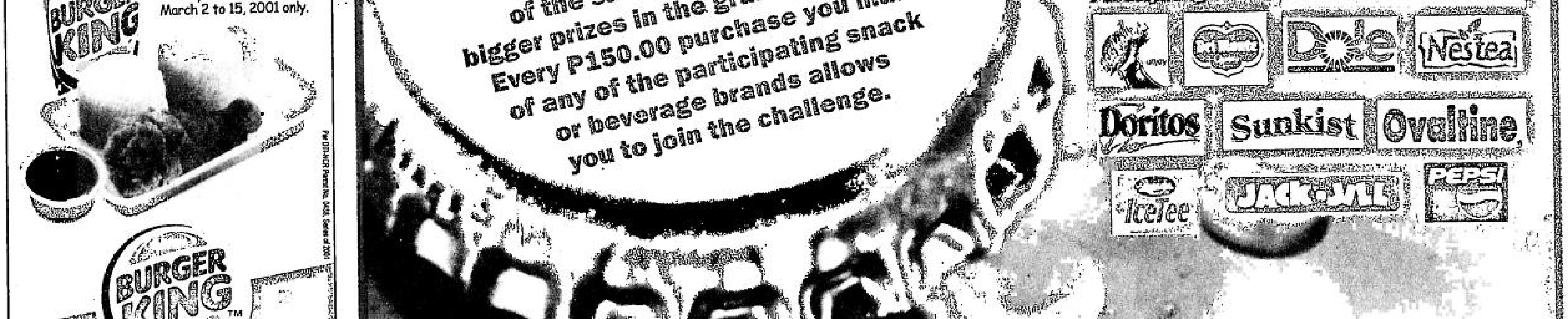
Participating brands:
Dole Nestea Doritos Sunkist Ovaltine IceTee JACK n JILL PEPSI

See posters and flyers for details.

Left Wing, Festival Supermall, Filinvest, Alabang, Muntinlupa City • Vito Cruz Extension corner Pasong Tamo, Makati City http://www.shopwise.com.ph



EXTRA! EXTRA!
FREE EXTRA! RICE
WHEN YOU ORDER
The BK FRIED CHICKEN MEAL
STILL ONLY P 43.00!
Hurry! Promo runs from March 2 to 15, 2001 only.
BURGER KING
It just tastes better™
The BURGER KING Bun Halves and Crescent Logo + BK Fried Chicken are trademarks of Burger King Corporation.© 1999 Burger King Corporation, All Rights reserved.



TOTO
A WORLD LEADER IN BATHROOM FIXTURES
Reliability and Performance
Both Single & Dual Flush
SMT SIAM MARIWASA TOTO, INC.
Tel. Nos. 637-84-66 to 68 Fax No. 635-95-74

Prominence
Push-Button Type
Elongated
CW894
w/ Washlet Eco
TCW02

Berna
Dual Flush
C703 DB
Round Front

Paris
Single Flush
C703 B
Round Front
Also Available
Elongated
C704 B Pamela

Doria
Dual Flush
C703 DL
Round Front
Also Available
Elongated
C704 DL Denise

Amina
Single Flush
C703 S
Round Front
Also Available
Elongated
C704 S Evita

CHIN Chin Gutierrez models Ong's creations

A designer's love affair with nature

EVER since Dita Sandico Ong began to create clothes from natural fibers like *piña*, *jusi*, *abaca*, linen, cotton and combinations of these, she has turned to nature more and more as source of her creativity.

She likes those fibers because they can be woven into beautiful fabrics and they are *real*. Using them meant going back to nature and making minimal use of chemicals and plastic sources. Not that Dita has anything against manmade textiles. They, too, are beautiful and important, but when there are choices available, she always takes the natural options.

Dita's clothes are displayed in her shop, Cache, in Greenhills, where one gets a good idea of how versatile and wearable they are. While plant fibers take easily to coloration, their natural colors—beige and ecru—give Dita's creations a marked distinction. She turns them into smart casuals, elegant formals, and now, they've become increasingly sought-after as bridal gowns and ensembles.

Those who know her fashion background will not be surprised to learn that she heads the Earthlite Foundation, a one-stop shop that celebrates Mother Earth in her many aspects, offering services for healing the body as well as the spirit.

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

Working with natural fibers, she says, moved her to take other natural paths and consequently a deeper involvement with the environment. Five years ago, while making an assessment of where she wanted to go in her business and her life, it dawned on her that she was going in the right direction.

She felt there was need to share that awareness with others, that adopting more natural lifestyles could answer many of our problems on this planet. "We are being overwhelmed by electronics," she explains by way of example, "and so we need to find a balance between modern technology and the basics of life."

After 16 years of making fiber clothes, she decided to take up an advocacy, help people while helping Mother Earth, in an endeavor she calls "bringing light to everyday life," hence Earthlite.

Earthlite advocates a simple and healthy lifestyle, easing pain and stress by alternative, safe medication. "If you're feeling stressed out," says Dita, "perhaps a massage or acupuncture will bring relief."

Next, she needed a place where people could find out more about this lifestyle. She found it on the vacant fourth floor of the C.O.D. Department Store, in Cubao, QC, whose owners are family friends. It has an area of 3,000 sq m, just right for the stores, services and activities now being offered there which, incidentally, were highlighted at the foundation's second anniversary celebration on Feb. 24.

Permanent services include an organic food store; locally made, high quality, earth-friendly household products (baskets, mats, pottery, carvings); fashion clothes and accessories; stationery shop with accent on handmade paper; homeopathic and herbal medicines; children's play room, featuring ecologically safe toys, art activities, theater workshops; a coffee shop offering healthful meals, snacks and drinks; a library with reading material to help improve one's quality of life; and candles and incense to enhance daily spiritual practices.

Aside from these, there are clinics offering natural and holistic medical services (acupuncture, reflexology, therapeutic massage, etc.), a seminar room for 200 people with a year-round program of lectures and workshops on personal growth. There is ample space also for concerts, art exhibits, body movement exercises like shiatsu, ichiban karate, aikido.

Earthlite is a pioneering effort, says Dita, "but we hope a seed is planted here. It may seem like a grandiose plan. Perhaps it is, but we're starting small." It is not making bags of money, she admits, just enough to maintain facilities and personnel.

Dita makes it a point to take time out from her shop to be at Earthlite every afternoon, usually at 4 p.m. Proving that business and advocacy do mix, a fashion show featuring her clothes will be featured on March 10, 9 p.m., at the Monsoon Bar, Linden Suites, Ortigas Avenue.

If she ever needed further prodding to see her vision through, she got it during a recent visit to the Mangyans in Mindoro. "There is this Mangyan woman I met years ago," she recounts, "I met her again this year. She lives in the mountains and comes down to the city only on occasions. She is about 50, but where some city women of the same age tend to look worn out and old, she looks hale and fit and youthful. It must be her closeness to nature."

Bakit pipili ng gamot na mahal kung may kasing bisa na mas mura?

Para sa makapit na plema
PHAREX
Bromhexine
For 4 mg/mL syrup, SAVE 36%
For 8 mg capsule, SAVE 52%

Hindi kailangang mahal ang gamot na mabisa.
That's why there's Pharex Medicines.

Pharex medicines are definitely as safe and effective as other brands because these are certified by the Department of Health. What's more, Pharex medicines are also trusted and prescribed by doctors. And these are more affordable as well, giving you more value for your money!

Para sa ubong sanhi ng makating lalamunan
PHAREX
Guaifenesin
For 100 mg/5 mL syrup, SAVE 59%

Para sa sakit ng ulo at lagnat
PHAREX
Paracetamol
For 500 mg tablet, SAVE 52%

Para sa ubong sanhi ng allergy
PHAREX
Diphenhydramine
For 12.5 mg/5 mL syrup, SAVE 43%
For 25 mg capsule, SAVE 46%

Para sa ubo
PHAREX
Carbocisteine
For 250 mg/5 mL syrup, SAVE 47%
For 100 mg/5 mL syrup, SAVE 31%
For 500 mg capsule, SAVE 31%

Pampasigla ng katawan
PHAREX
Vitamin B1+B6+B12
For 500 mg tablet, SAVE 71%

Mag-PHAREX ka na!

SAVINGS BASED ON RETAIL PRICES OF OTHER BRANDS

SAVE UP TO 71%

Tandaan, 'pag may karamdaman, mag-Pharex ka na.

Para sa lagnat - PHAREX Paracetamol • Para sa sakit ng ulo - PHAREX Paracetamol/ PHAREX Mefenamic Acid • Para sa ubo - PHAREX Carbocisteine • Para sa makapit na plema - PHAREX Bromhexine • Para sa ubong sanhi ng allergy - PHAREX Diphenhydramine • Para sa ubong sanhi ng makating lalamunan - PHAREX Guaifenesin • Para sa impeksiyon - PHAREX Antibiotics • Pampasigla ng katawan - PHAREX Vitamin B1+B6+B12

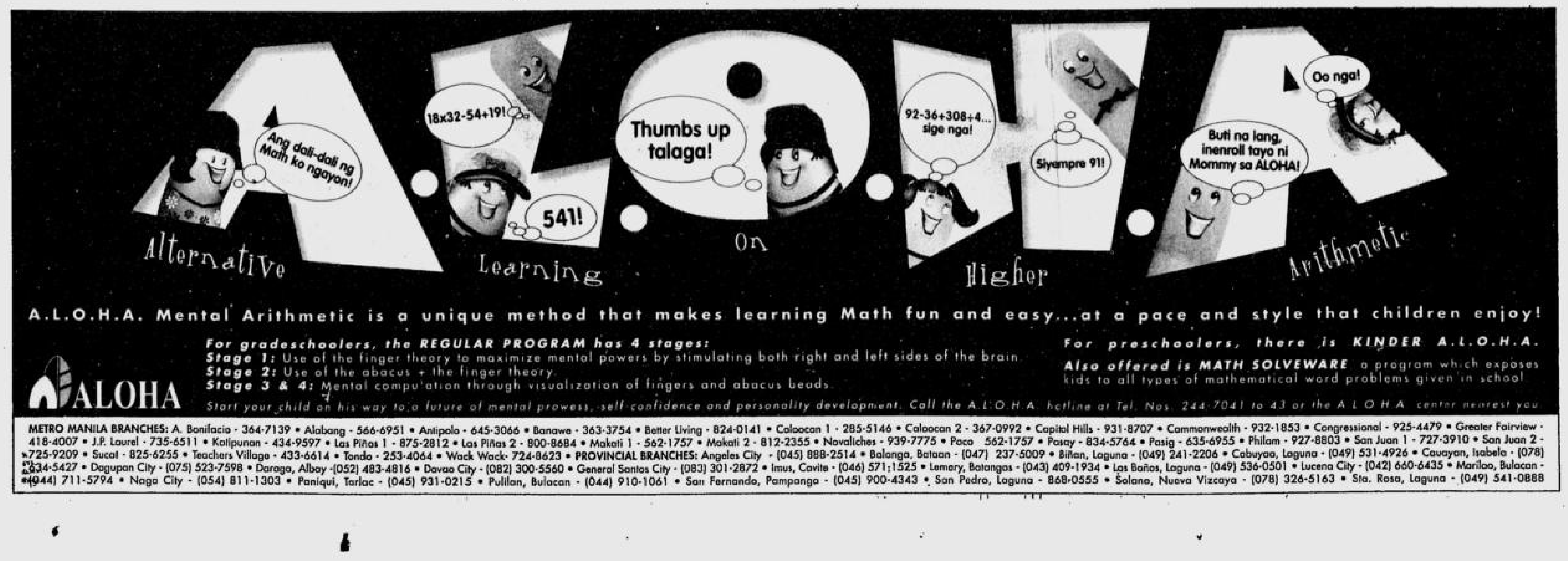
Para sa PHAREX medicines na kailangan ng riseta, konsultahin ang inyong doktor.

Available at leading drugstores and all *mercury drug* branches nationwide.

For further inquiries/comments, call the Pharex Hotlines: 924-2158 or 924-2170
E-mail us at pharex@pascuallab.com or write to Pharex Healthcorp.
817 EDSA, South Triangle, QC.

PHAREX Medicines
Quality You Can Afford.
A wholly-owned subsidiary of,

Mel Tiangco



A.L.O.H.A.

Alternative Learning On Higher Arithmetic

A.L.O.H.A. Mental Arithmetic is a unique method that makes learning Math fun and easy...at a pace and style that children enjoy!

For gradeschoolers, the REGULAR PROGRAM has 4 stages:
Stage 1: Use of the finger theory to maximize mental powers by stimulating both right and left sides of the brain.
Stage 2: Use of the abacus + the finger theory.
Stage 3 & 4: Mental computation through visualization of fingers and abacus beads.

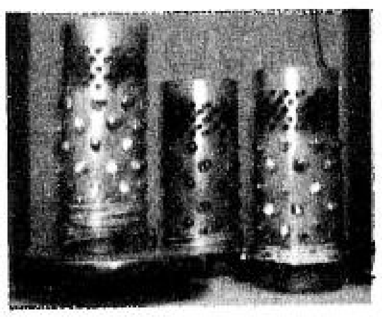
For preschoolers, there is KINDER A.L.O.H.A.
Also offered is MATH SOLVEWARE a program which exposes kids to all types of mathematical word problems given in school

ALOHA

Start your child on his way to a future of mental prowess, self-confidence and personality development. Call the A.L.O.H.A. hotline at Tel. Nos. 244-7041 to 43 or the A.L.O.H.A. center nearest you.

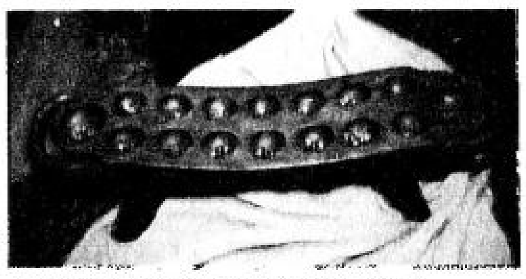
METRO MANILA BRANCHES: A. Bonifacio - 364-7139 • Alabang - 566-6951 • Antipolo - 645-3066 • Banawe - 363-3754 • Better Living - 824-0141 • Caloocan 1 - 285-5146 • Caloocan 2 - 367-0992 • Capitol Hills - 931-8707 • Commonwealth - 932-1853 • Congressional - 925-4479 • Greater Fairview - 418-4007 • J.P. Laurel - 735-6511 • Kalipunan - 434-9597 • Las Piñas 1 - 875-2812 • Las Piñas 2 - 800-8684 • Makati 1 - 562-1757 • Makati 2 - 812-2355 • Novaliches - 939-7775 • Paco 562-1757 • Pasay - 834-5764 • Pasig - 635-6955 • Philam - 927-8803 • San Juan 1 - 727-3910 • San Juan 2 - 725-9209 • Sucat - 825-6255 • Teachers Village - 433-6614 • Tondo - 253-4064 • Wack Wack- 724-8623 • PROVINCIAL BRANCHES: Angeles City - (045) 888-2514 • Balanga, Bataan - (047) 237-5009 • Biñan, Laguna - (049) 241-2206 • Cabuyao, Laguna - (049) 531-4926 • Cauayan, Isabela - (078) 634-5427 • Dagupan City - (075) 523-7598 • Daraga, Albay - (052) 483-4816 • Davao City - (082) 300-5560 • General Santos City - (083) 301-2872 • Imus, Cavite - (046) 571-1525 • Lemery, Batangas - (043) 409-1934 • Los Baños, Laguna - (049) 536-0501 • Lucena City - (042) 660-6435 • Marilao, Bulacan - (044) 711-5794 • Naga City - (054) 811-1303 • Paniqui, Tarlac - (045) 931-0215 • Pulilan, Bulacan - (044) 910-1061 • San Fernando, Pampanga - (045) 900-4343 • San Pedro, Laguna - 868-0555 • Solano, Nueva Vizcaya - (078) 326-5163 • Sta. Rosa, Laguna - (049) 541-0888

Ang dali-dali ng Math ko ngayon!
18x32-54+19!
541!
Thumbs up talaga!
92-36+308+4... sige nga!
Siyempre 91!
Buti na lang, inenroll tayo ni Mommy sa ALOHA!
Oo nga!



FANCIFUL lamps of bamboo and marbles glow like firebrand.

The glow of ancient wood gives any house an air of livability that can never be imparted by cold and antiseptic stone, steel and glass



HARDWOOD *sungkaan* from Benguet

Turning houses into homes

By Constantino C. Tejero

THE MOMENT you step into that long alley-like shop between Café Havana and Bistro Remedios, you catch some notes shivering in the air, of Ravel and Philip Glass, of New Age music. This is a far cry from the techno sound that has of late invaded that part of Malate, and at once you sense you're entering a world that offers the finer things in life.

PNKY Collection at 1911 M. Adriatico St. in the Remedios Circle stands at the former site of Larry's Bar. The showroom is a trove of collectibles, antique and ethnic artifacts, but most notably custom-designed furniture made from recycled old wood salvaged from old houses, farm implements, natural driftwood.

With "Turning houses into homes" as motto, entrepreneur Pynky Gomez Magsino has sourced the whole country but mostly the tribal North for her goods, and filled her shop with the warmth of wood. The glow of ancient wood gives any house an air of livability that can never be imparted by cold and antiseptic stone, steel and glass.

Aside from what's extravagantly on display, the shop also accepts custom orders. Shop manager Ligaya Jaurigue is quite helpful in showing the visitor around and identifying each kind of wood or an object's provenance.

(Magsino has two other such shops in Baguio City—PNKY's Woodworks at 4 Brent Road and at 5 Sofia de Veyra St., Quezon Hill.)

ACACIA bags and food trays

WAISTED acacia candleholders, *kamagong* and *molave* sauce bowls, gravy boats and ladles on shelves of recycled old wood

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

An ethereal lamp

Of the smaller pieces, noteworthy are the flower vases (three rectangular glass tubes on a *molave* stand); the various candleholders of pinewood, glass or acacia (footed or waisted); even the bamboo rain sticks, the pinewood tissue holders, the carved *molave* walking sticks, and the glass or *molave* banana holders.

Kamagong, that precious wood, has been carved into ladles and sauce bowls with stands. They look and feel so precious you're bound to handle them as you would pearls.

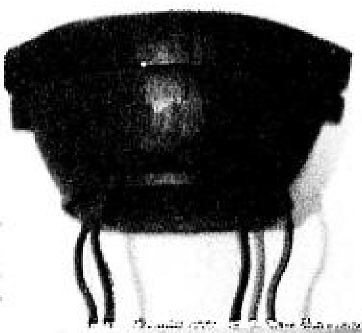
Lampshades come in various forms and materials, the most fanciful of which is a bamboo cylinder studded with multicolored marbles that glow like firebrand when switched on.

One curious lamp has been recycled from a wooden ice-crusher. Another has as stand a *molave* rotary tiller, a variant of which is twice as tall at 6 ft.

But the queen of all lamps is an Art Nouveau antique formed like the umbel of the tiger lily, otherwise known as the lily lamp. Each funnel-shaped branch gives off an ethereal orange glow.

There are acacia bags for magazines or umbrellas; an old *baul* of *narra* exquisitely inlaid; hardwood *sungkaan* from Benguet and Palawan (the one with the woven-rattan handle); Northern Luzon personal adornments, such as a mother-of-pearl necklace.

Igorot-house ladders of bamboo or *molave* have been turned into display racks, and hung with tribal rattan backpacks and chicken coops, or draped with brightly colored ethnic weaves, strands of glass beads and semiprecious stones.



The loveliest table

Display cabinets come in narra, pinewood or *molave*, plain or Art Nouveau, with drawers or with mirrors, antique, *moderne* or postmodern. A pinewood cabinet with rattan *sulihiya* borders and bamboo siding, which could have been a *paminggalan* in its past life, has been resurrected as an entertainment rack.

There are a CD rack of wrought iron and *molave*, a *narra* pillow rack, a pinewood étagère. There are even hardwood bookends and bookshelves that can be pushed against the wall, and *narra* bookshelves on a tapered stand.

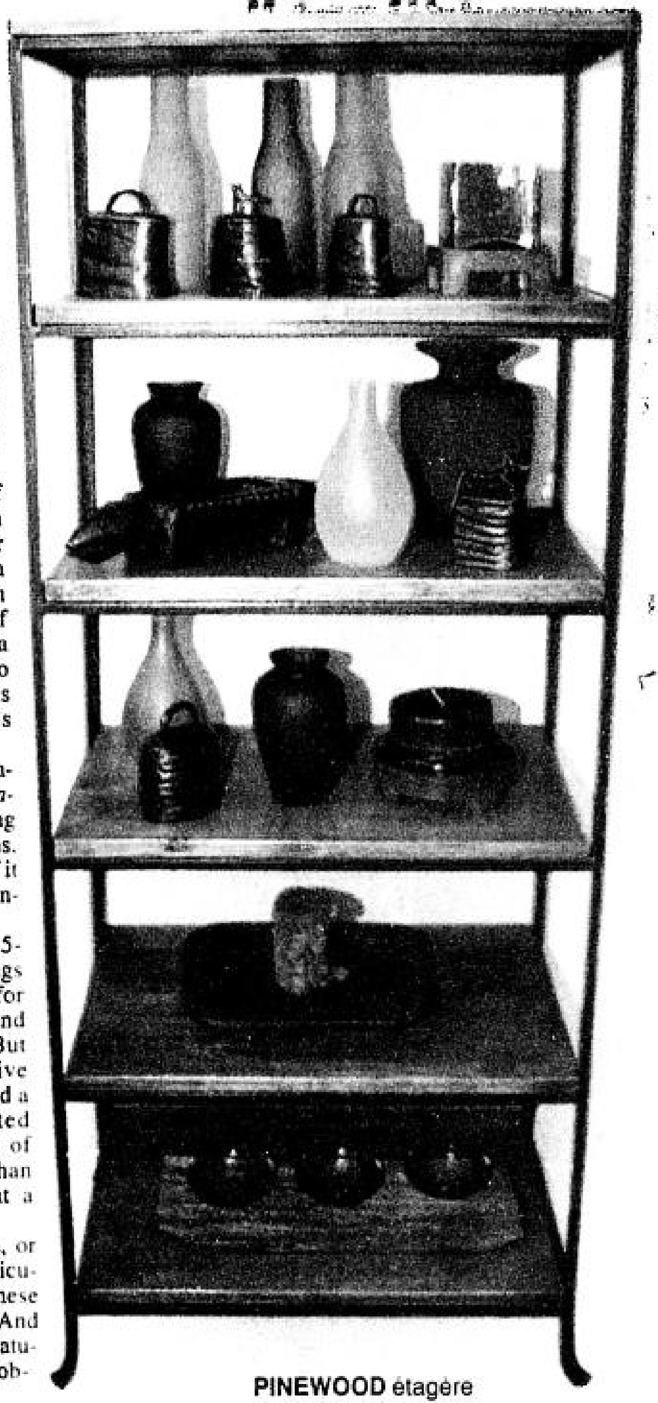
A dinner table for 12, made of very thick polished hardwood from an old bowling lane, goes for P45,000. A *molave* side table and a pinewood butcher's table, which could make your kitchen the talk of the neighborhood, are each worth a minimum-wage earner's two months' salary. A pinewood stool is more affordable, at a half-month's salary.

Surely the loveliest of these tables is the slim, clean-lined *kamagong* console table, its shimmering surface having well-defined grains, polished and shiny like Formica. If it had a personality it would be a princess.

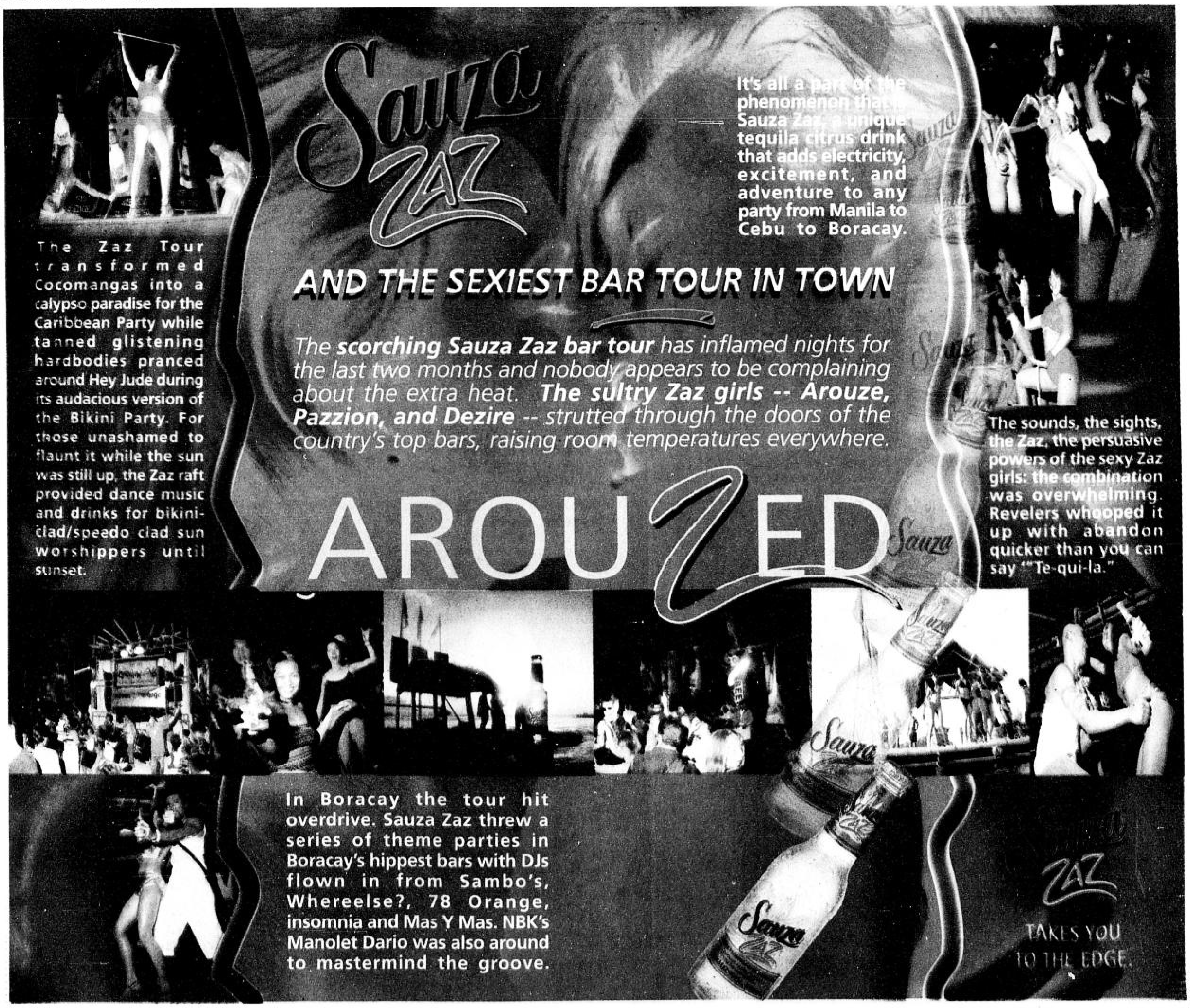
When we laid our eyes on a 15-ft long settee with lion-carving legs near the entrance, which went for P88,000, we thought we had found the most precious of the lot. But then there was still that massive *aparador* with a mirrored face and a detachable acanthus-decorated crown, at an unheard-of price of P250,000. (Why, that's more than enough to get yourself a dig at a low-cost housing.)

But you don't argue with life, or anything associated with life, particularly if it's of the finer kind. These objects came from living things. And since they're associated with the natural, they come on as breathing objects.

And that should render money as too many pieces of paper.



PINEWOOD étagère on wrought-iron frame



It's all a part of the phenomenon that is Sauza Zaz, a unique tequila citrus drink that adds electricity, excitement, and adventure to any party from Manila to Cebu to Boracay.

The **scorching Sauza Zaz bar tour** has inflamed nights for the last two months and nobody appears to be complaining about the extra heat. **The sultry Zaz girls -- Arouze, Pazzion, and Dezire** -- strutted through the doors of the country's top bars, raising room temperatures everywhere.

The Zaz Tour transformed Cocomangas into a calypso paradise for the Caribbean Party while tanned glistening hardbodies pranced around Hey Jude during its audacious version of the Bikini Party. For those unashamed to flaunt it while the sun was still up, the Zaz raft provided dance music and drinks for bikini-clad/speedo clad sun worshippers until sunset.

The sounds, the sights, the Zaz, the persuasive powers of the sexy Zaz girls: the combination was overwhelming. Revelers whooped it up with abandon quicker than you can say ""Te-qui-la."

In Boracay the tour hit overdrive. Sauza Zaz threw a series of theme parties in Boracay's hippest bars with DJs flown in from Sambo's, Whereelse?, 78 Orange, insomnia and Mas Y Mas. NBK's Manolet Dario was also around to mastermind the groove.

SSS retiree asks for pension raise

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron

HOW can a retiree with a bad heart condition and hypertension survive with the P2,940 monthly SSS pension, asked former schoolteacher E. Francisco of Concepcion I, Marikina City.

How indeed, considering that some unscrupulous establishments refuse to give the 20 percent privilege discount which the government grants low-income elderly citizens? Mr. Francisco wrote to us hoping that his letter, when published, will call the attention of President Gloria M. Arroyo to the plight of pensioners in the country.

He wrote: "I became a member of the SSS in 1958 and retired in 1988 when I got sick. I am 66 years old now and spends close to P2,000 for my medication. The remaining P940 is stretched to the limit so I can buy other basic needs.

"In behalf of other pensioners, I am appealing to President Arroyo to find it in her heart to raise our pensions to a level that will meet our basic needs.

"By the way, we senior citizens are grateful to the government official (mentioned in your column) who is asking the Bureau of Internal Revenue to give business establishments their long-due tax credit for the 20 percent discount they give us. Unless the store-owners get tax credit, many of them will refuse to give us our discount privileges." (DTI Secretary Mar Roxas is the official referred to.)

Long-due refund

CALLING Events Planners! Just reminding concert planners at Events that they have yet to refund the payments to the following buyers of tickets for the cancelled concert "Kiri Te Kanawa" scheduled last October.

Elizabeth V. Reyes of Hidalgo, Makati City asked us to relay this message to Events officials: "I had been pursuing my refund by phone and all I got were empty promises. As of late, their telephone service is disconnected. I don't know their address. Do I send our letters now to the Presidential Management Staff where an Events top official is reportedly connected?"

Ticket buyer Dr. Eugene Ramos of Pasig City also wrote to us: "For more than four months, Events Planners promised to refund the P6,000 I paid for three tickets to the Kiri Te Kanawa concert. Now their telephone service is disconnected and they seem to have disappeared!

"The people running the firm must refund the people's money, and they should not be allowed to continue doing business unless they settle their obligations. I can live without my P6,000 but I cannot accept the feeling that I may have been conned."

Moviegoers pay extra for Dolby

WHY are moviegoers asked to pay more for the Dolby system used in screening the film "Dalmatians 101"?

Noli Aguila of Cainta, Rizal and family went to Sta. Lucia Grand Mall to see the film. He knew the tickets cost P80 for premier and P50 for deluxe. He was dismayed, however, to find out that the price printed on the tickets was only P39.

"The ticket seller explained that the extra charges were for the use of the Dolby system which was needed by the film. Does the BIR or the municipal officials know about the added-on charges?"

Consumer groups are networking

CONSUMER organizations in Davao and Cebu are clamoring for better implementation of the consumer protection law by involving all levels of the government and grass roots organizations all over the country.

At the recent consumer forum in Davao, local groups proposed that the barangay unit should be given a bigger role in implementing consumer protection programs. In Cebu, the consumer groups agreed that a major upgrading of consumer policy-making was needed. They also proposed that a Presidential adviser on consumer affairs should be appointed.

The conferences are part of a series of national consultative forums organized by the Consumer Assistance Facilitation Project. Other meetings will be held in Legazpi City and Baguio. For more details, write to Ed Santoalla or Joyce Sierra at e-mail address bahaw@I-next.net.

Praise for PowerBooks!

BOOK lover W. Raymundo of San Pablo City said that he was excited to discover PowerBooks site (www.powerbooks.com.ph) while he was surfing. He e-mailed inquiries and did not expect a prompt reply.

He wrote: "I sent them a long list of hard-to-find books, 90 titles in all, including publications dated 1922. In four days, the Powerbooks staff had the list of available books and those that could be specially-ordered.

"Now I coordinate all my book purchases entirely via e-mail. Special orders from abroad take two to three months and require 50 percent deposit, but are worth it since I am spared of the hassle of importing (by other means). I thank Makati branch assistant manager Jane Mendoza, Alabang manager Jessica Hidalgo, and especially Marlene and Grace."

E-mail the author at giron@csi.com.ph

Interior designing made easy

INTERIOR designing need not be an expensive undertaking. With a few accessories and a little creativity, you can transform not only your surroundings but your lifestyle as well. My Home shares a few tips on giving new life to homes.

Color schemes. Choose one governing hue and liven up with accent colors in accessories such as cushions, rugs, chairs, wall or prints.

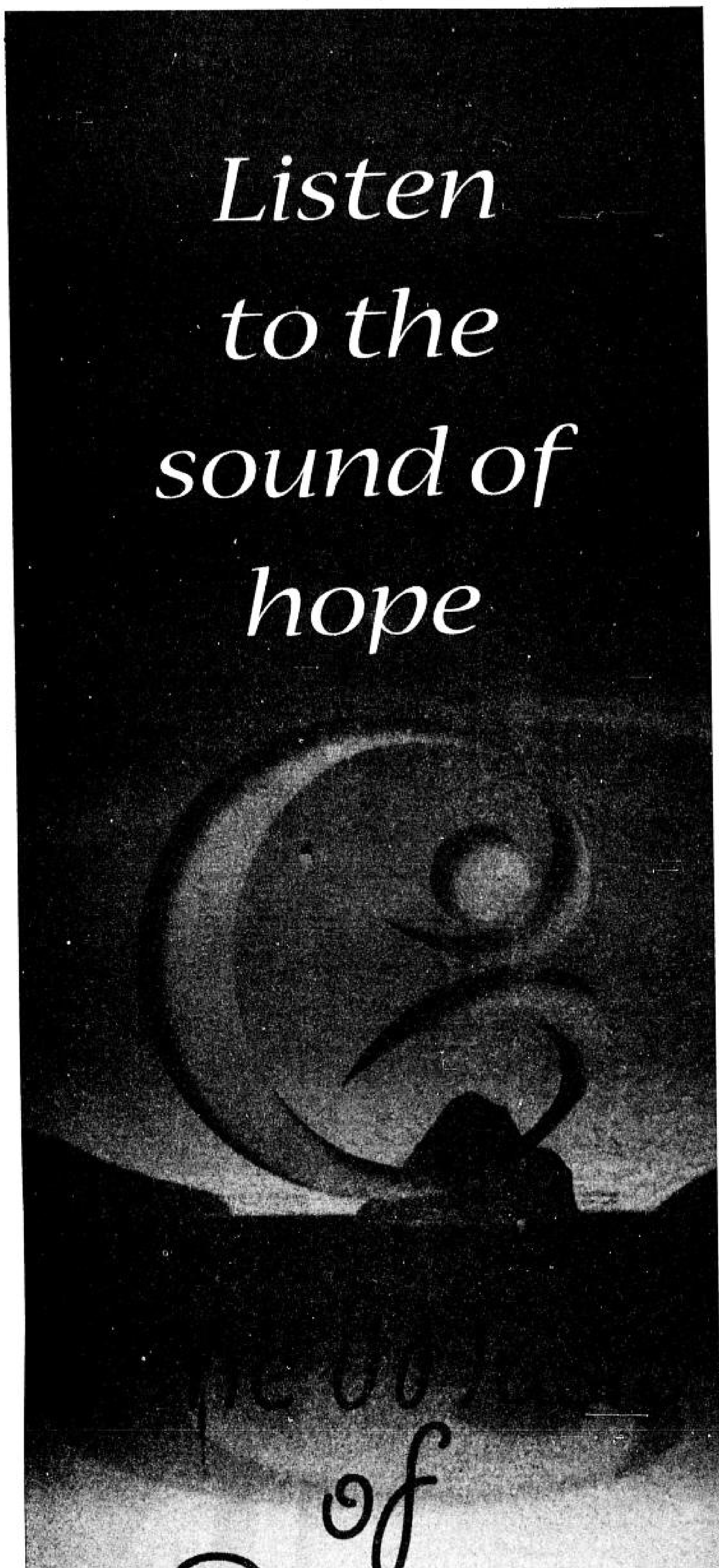
Expanding small areas. Paint your ceilings, floors and walls in a light shade for the illusion of space. Add mirrors and plenty of glass objects such as glass-topped tables and cabinets for a roomy feel.

Rough or smooth tiles. Busy people with no time to maintain the house should go for rustic ceramic tiles that need just enough sweeping and scrubbing to remove dust. Polished tiles that require waxing and scrubbing to remain shiny are for people who have more time for fixing up the house.

Kitchen class. Try replacing your table with one made of pine and add matching chairs painted in bright colors. Remove cabinet doors for an open-shelved look or replace with new glazed doors. Highlight windows with new café curtains or paint the window frames in a pretty hue.

Easy styling. Reupholster your couch and perk it up with a mass of throw pillows or cushions in bright hues or patterns. Jazz up your floors with carpets or other fancy floor covers in various natural materials like rattan matting or bamboo.

For more tips on easy interior designing, get a copy of My Home, the magazine on wonderful homes that make beautiful lifestyle happen. It is published bimonthly by Mega Magazine and Publications Inc. and is available at newsstands and bookstores nationwide for P125 a copy. Call Boomy Patino or Cath Ramos at 631-2859.


Listen to the sound of hope
of Dreams

A concert for the benefit of the bright young minds of CENTEX (Center of Excellence in Public Elementary Education)

While you're enjoying the music, some young children will be fulfilling their dreams. Less privileged but exceptionally bright, more and more students will be the rightful beneficiaries of your support as new Centex Schools are set up around the country.

8 p.m. Friday March 16 PICC Plenary Hall

Host: Pops Fernandez

Regine Velasquez · Lani Misalucha · Basil Valdez · Jaya · Agot Isidro
Jolina Magdangal · Cris Villonco · Geneva Cruz · Piolo Pascual · Carol Banawa
Lisa Macuja · Audie Gemora · Coke Bolipata

Ella Mae Saison · Isa Alvarez · Anna Fegi · Bituin Escalante · Michael Williams · JM Rodriguez · Rallon Alonzo · RJ Rosales · Jeffrey Hidalgo · Tony Lambino · Dianne Dela Fuente · James Coronel · Kaya · Pundaquit Virtuosi · Isa Fabregas · Hans Dimayuga · Bataoke Kids

Directed by: Johnny Manahan
Musical Direction by: Ryan Cayabyab with the Manila Philharmonic Orchestra

P5000 tickets available thru concert secretariat only (841-5355, 759-4012).
P3000 · P1000 · P700 · P500 · P300 available at PICC, Glorietta Mall, Alabang Town Center and all Ticketworld outlets (National Bookstore, Robinsons Dept. Store, Music Museum, Tower Records) Call 891-5691 for reservations.

AYALA FOUNDATION, INC.
ABS-CBN
GLOBE TELECOM
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER LIFESTYLE
INQUIRER

MATH WASN'T THEIR FAVORITE SUBJECT UNTIL...

A.L.O.H.A.

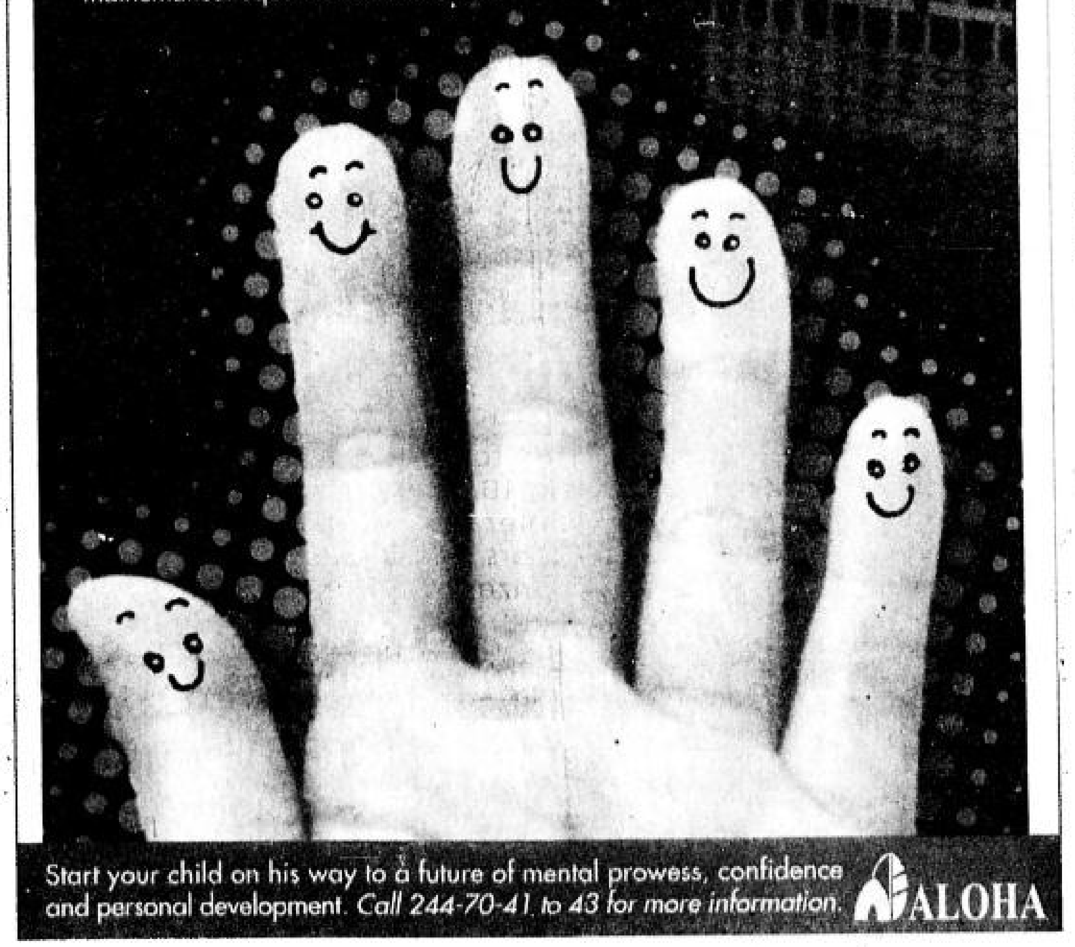
ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ON HIGHER ARITHMETIC

CAME INTO THE PICTURE!

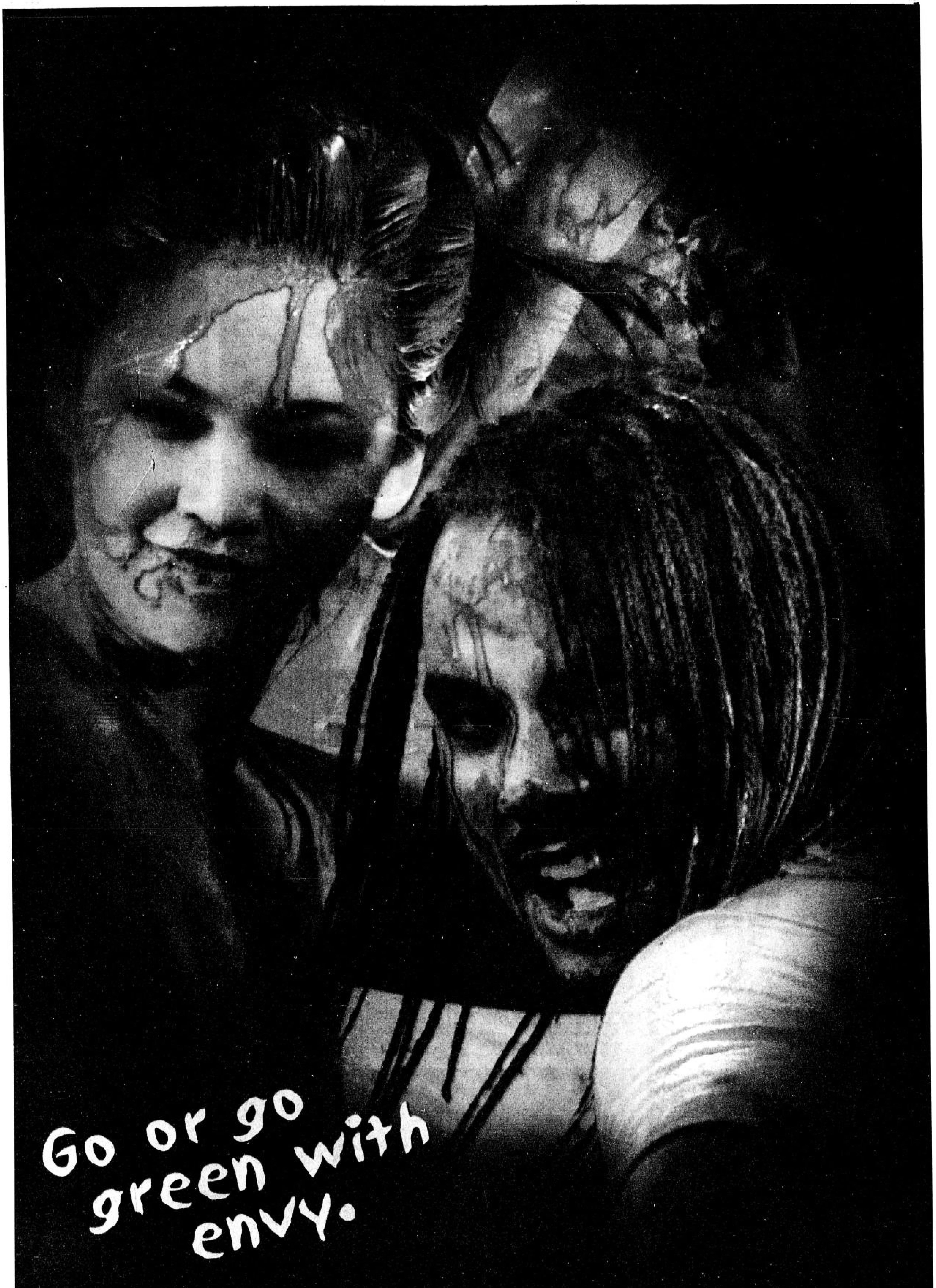
A.L.O.H.A. stands for Alternative Learning On Higher Arithmetic. A.L.O.H.A. mental arithmetic is a unique method that works in stages, and at a style and pace that kids enjoy!
At stage 1, children are taught the finger theory to unleash the powers of analysis and visualization by stimulating both right and left sides of the brain.
At stage 2, the abacus is used in making calculations, along with the finger theory.
At stage 3 and 4, children calculate mentally by visualizing the abacus beads and the fingers.

A.L.O.H.A. managing director for the Philippines Prof. Mer Elenzano thought this method was too good to be true until A.L.O.H.A. founder Dr. Loh invited him to Malaysia to see the method at work. There, he saw 6 and 7 year olds bombarded with mathematical equations one after the other. To make sure the answers were not scripted, Mr. Elenzano made his own sets of equations, which the children were able to answer with amazing speed and accuracy! From 14 centers in 1998, there are now over 50 centers in the Philippines. The company also has joint ventures with 15 schools, where Mental Math has become as popular as Taekwondo, football and basketball.
Any adult would certainly get intimidated to see how little children are able to solve mathematical equations without the aid of a calculator, pen or paper...and all in just a matter of seconds!

But aside from dramatically improving Math skills, children trained in A.L.O.H.A. also do well in other subjects because the method maximizes both logical and creative faculties of the brain. They likewise develop a very positive attitude towards learning in general, as they continue to boost their self-confidence.



Start your child on his way to a future of mental prowess, confidence and personal development. *Call 244-70-41 to 43 for more information.* ALOHA


Go or go green with envy.

Rave from A to zed.

A to zed, the ultimate rave party to cap off the Paint the Town zed bar tour, is hitting the NBC Tent at the Fort on March 10. Party from 11 pm to dawn to the turntables of the country's top DJs led by Manolet Dario. And for those who want to drink up or chow down, Venezia, Club Spoon, Stars and Strike Zone will satisfy any craving while you're raving. So go party. Go win prizes. Go crazy. Just go, or you'll go green with envy.

tap in zed
in-phone services
www.zed.com

Spoon
Stars BAR & DINING
ANONYMOUS FEMININ MASCULIN
VENEZIA BAR & RESTAURANT

A COLORFUL wall of *ti* plants brings one to this part of the frontyard.

POPO'S cabana/bed

A METAL trellis at the frontyard

A garden as work of art

BY ADRIAN LIZARES
PHOTOS BY CHITO VECINA

POPO San Pascual is well known in art circles, but little is known of him as a gardener. When not painting, Popo tends to his 1-hectare property in Mendez, Cavite.

PHILIPPINE *catmon*

Artist Popo San Pascual makes a leafy installation out of an earthy canvas

The area is a wild, condensed mass of plants. Variously shaped leaves dominate the scenery. Driving through an unprepossessing gate, I am instantly transported into another realm.

Even now, the car parks under the shade of overhanging trees and vines. In a clearing the artist's house sits. It is a series of open rooms designed around the artist's daily needs. The entrance hall is where the artist's paints and easels are. There is a spare bedroom for guests, and Popo uses a corner room adjacent to his bedroom for dining. Every room has huge windows that open up to the garden surrounding his house.

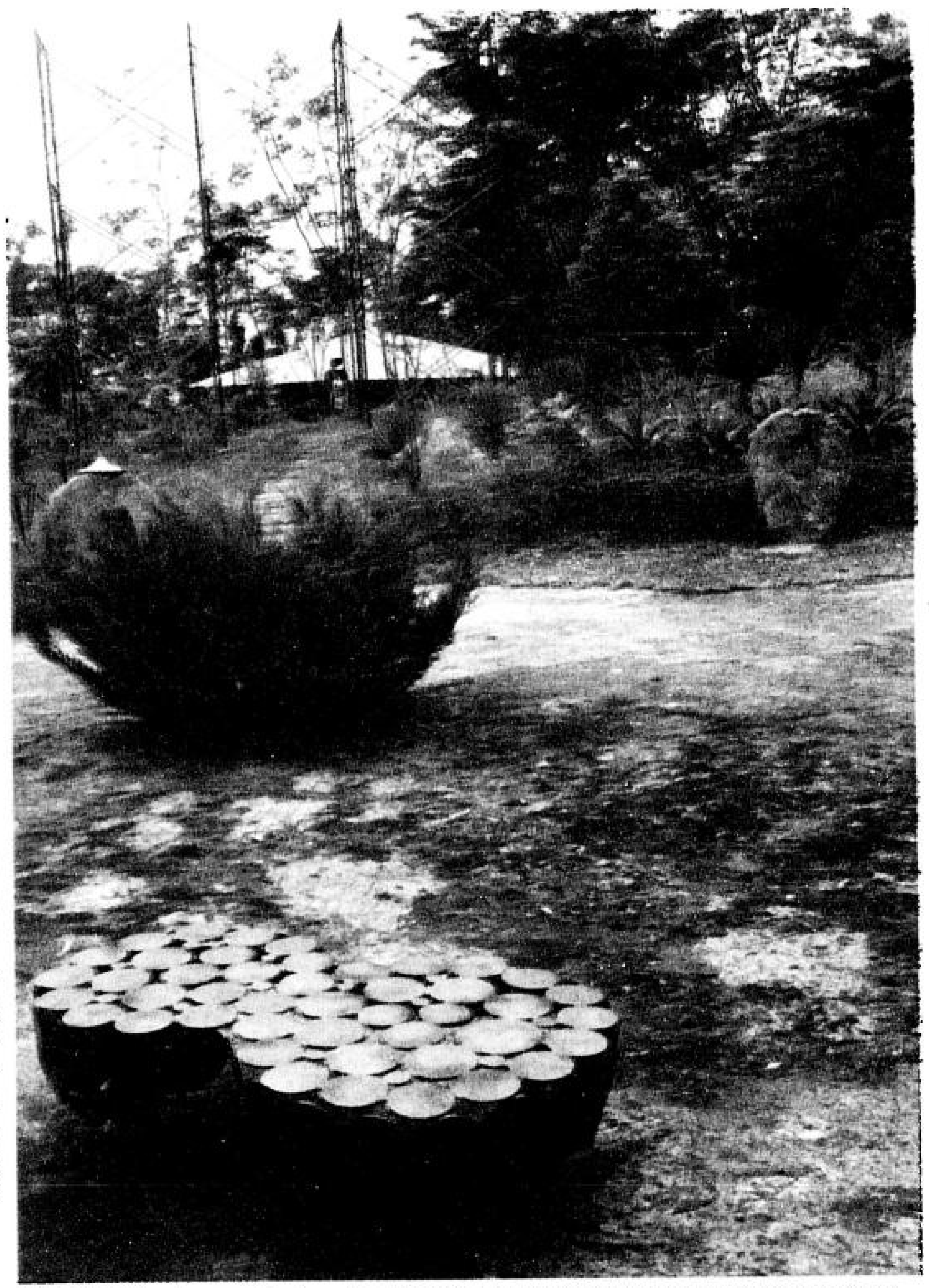
From what I see through the windows, the artist must have spent a lot of time in his garden. Popo uses his instinct as guide; he leaves nature to shape the garden and merely allows his artistic inclinations to set up focal points.

Jungle islands

A metal trellis overgrown with *allamandas* ushers me into the frontyard. In this yard lie tropical jungle islands emphasized by huge and colorful foliage. Sometimes the leaves are tiny but massed together if only to compete with the size and splendor of their gigantic neighbors. These "islands" are bound together by a series of walkways that leads to different areas. One path leads to a cabana that houses nothing more than a bed.

Farther to the right is another hut big enough for three—for conversation and cigarettes. It is surrounded by big-leafed philodendrons, ferns that have been nurtured since they were pups, cordylines bursting with colorful foliage, bromeliads soaking in water offering a blooming spike.

A lot of the plants are gifts from friends. Some are swaps. Still others came from trips to Baclaran, Ilocos and Quezon. There is no apparent plan in Popo's garden, just plants growing where he last placed them. And if they should perish? Leave it to the artist to say, "*Matira ang matibay*!" The space left out by the unfit is quickly replaced by another, and so the cycle goes.


THE ARCH (background) by Popo San Pascual and metal table (foreground) by Trek Valdizno

A CYATHEA grown from a 6" pup

YOUNG jackfruit

A PATHWAY strewn with lemon grass

It has been six years since he moved from Quezon City, and one cannot say that the seeming lack of a general plan in the garden is an indication of insensitivity on the part of the gardener. It is just his personal way of viewing the garden and aiding it along its growth. What with so much space and time in his hand, Popo allows for change and movement.

As these islands grow, new additions are noticeable. A dozen or so royal palms, which Popo planted a year after moving, provide the vertical elements in his garden. River rocks strewn along the island borders are actually barriers for the garden hose so that the plants won't be destroyed when the gardener drags the hose along. Far areas are best watered with the *rigadera* (the watering can). A juvenile *Amherstia nobilis* provides the promise of exotic blooms for the future.

Pineapple plantation

Popo's grandfather acquired the property and those around it in 1934 for 14 centavos per square meter. It used to be planted to pineapple. We still see a lot of these pineapple plants. For this reason, Popo's bromeliads are still in his garden. Locals who are used to seeing pineapples can't really distinguish those from their decorative cousins. There have been thefts, especially on the orchids. Other garden owners have suffered the same fate. This has not deterred the artist. He has simply put orchids off the list.

The backyard is a completely different installation. I immediately notice it upon entering Popo's house. There is a vast expanse that is marked at the boundary by a huge metal arch made by the artist himself. Its form is inspired by La Defense in Courbeauvioe, Paris. This is a scaffold for a climbing plant called *copa de oro*. The plants surrounding this structure are asparagus and *dama de noche*.

The structure is the gateway to the adjoining property where Popo's cousins now live. As I draw closer to inspect the arch, I find myself in the middle of a round platform surrounded by eight huge carved rocks, which is another installation titled "Oracle to the Moon Virgin." The carved rocks called *dapi* are from the basket-weaving areas around Laguna and Quezon. They are used to press reeds and other natural fibers to flat pieces before they are woven into mats, baskets and other handcrafted pieces. They certainly take on a completely different meaning in this composition.

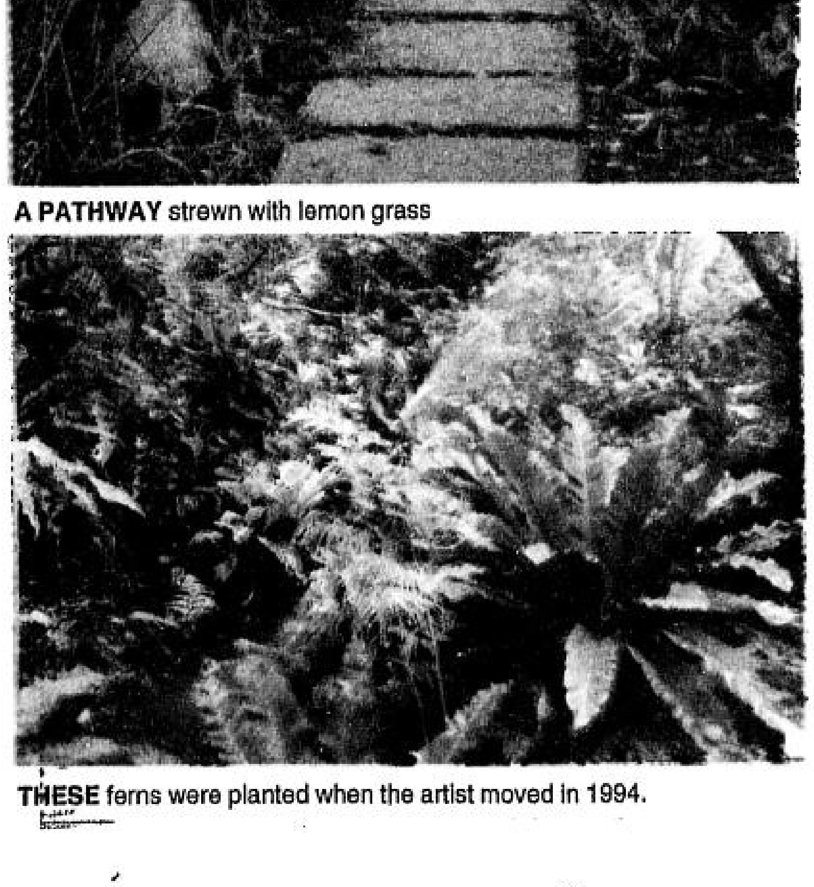
Over lunch we talk of mundane topics. By his kitchen, there is a Philippine *catmon* (*Dillenia philippinensis*) bearing round fruits the size of small tennis balls, which Popo uses as an ingredient in his *sinigang*. Its blooms are large white flowers. There used to be four 50-year-old *catmon* trees across the street. Unfortunately, these giants were cut down to make way for a concrete canteen. What a lamentable loss! We later change the topic and talk about bird songs. I spy the CD in the living room, "Beautiful Bird Songs" by Hallmark!

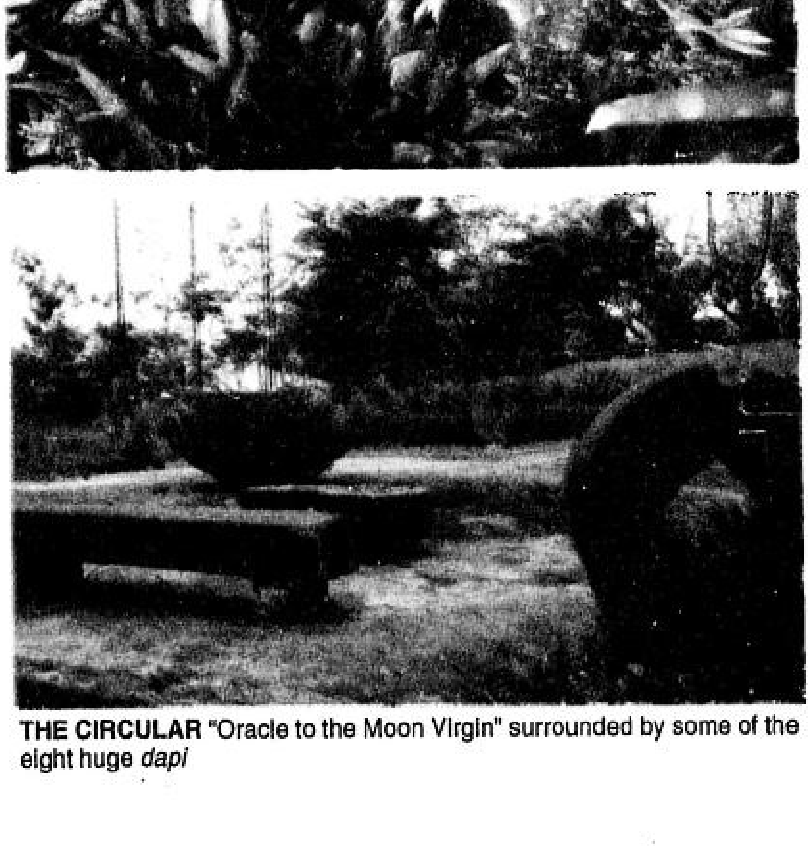
Popo San Pascual will hold a one-man-show, "Lifesavers," at the West Gallery in Glorietta starting March 15, featuring his latest works on canvas.

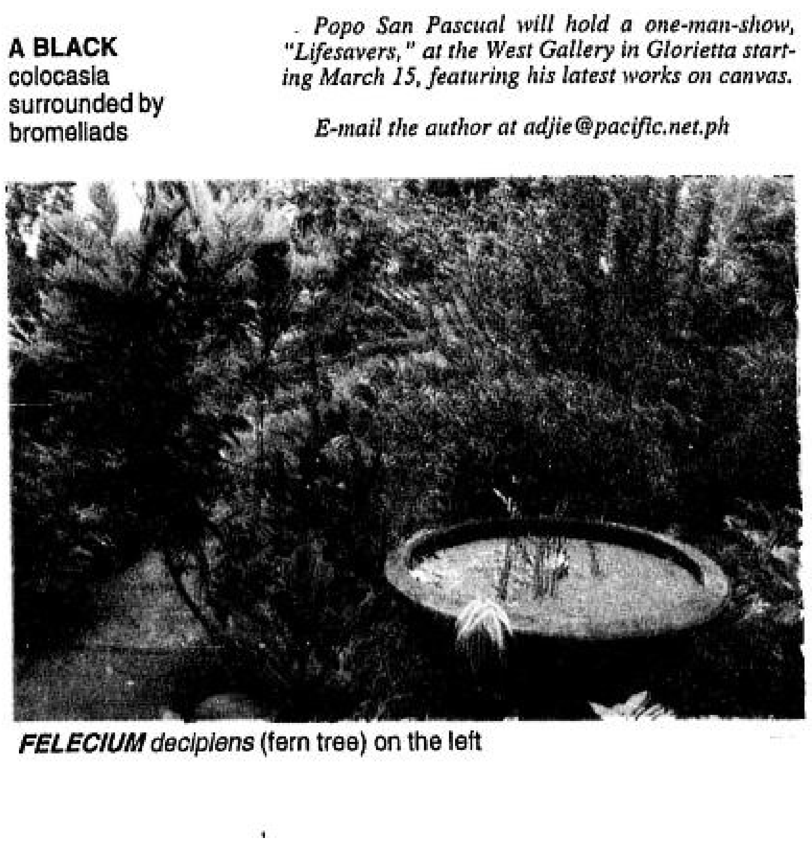
E-mail the author at adjie@pacific.net.ph

A BLACK colocasia surrounded by bromeliads

THE ARTIST


THESE ferns were planted when the artist moved in 1994.


THE CIRCULAR "Oracle to the Moon Virgin" surrounded by some of the eight huge *dapi*


FELECIUM *decipiens* (fern tree) on the left

Ballet Manila holds auditions for scholars

HOW would you like to learn ballet from the country's finest dancers? Learn straight from the masters such as Lisa Macuja and Osias Barroso as Ballet Manila (BM) conducts its summer workshop starting April 2.

In preparation for the workshop, BM is holding auditions on March 10 for scholars as well as potential company members and apprentices. Venue is the BM Studio at 1865 Donada St., Pasay City.

Registration starts at 10 a.m., with the audition proper at 2 p.m. A P100 fee will be charged.

Applicants must be between 6-15 years old (female) and 6-18 (male).

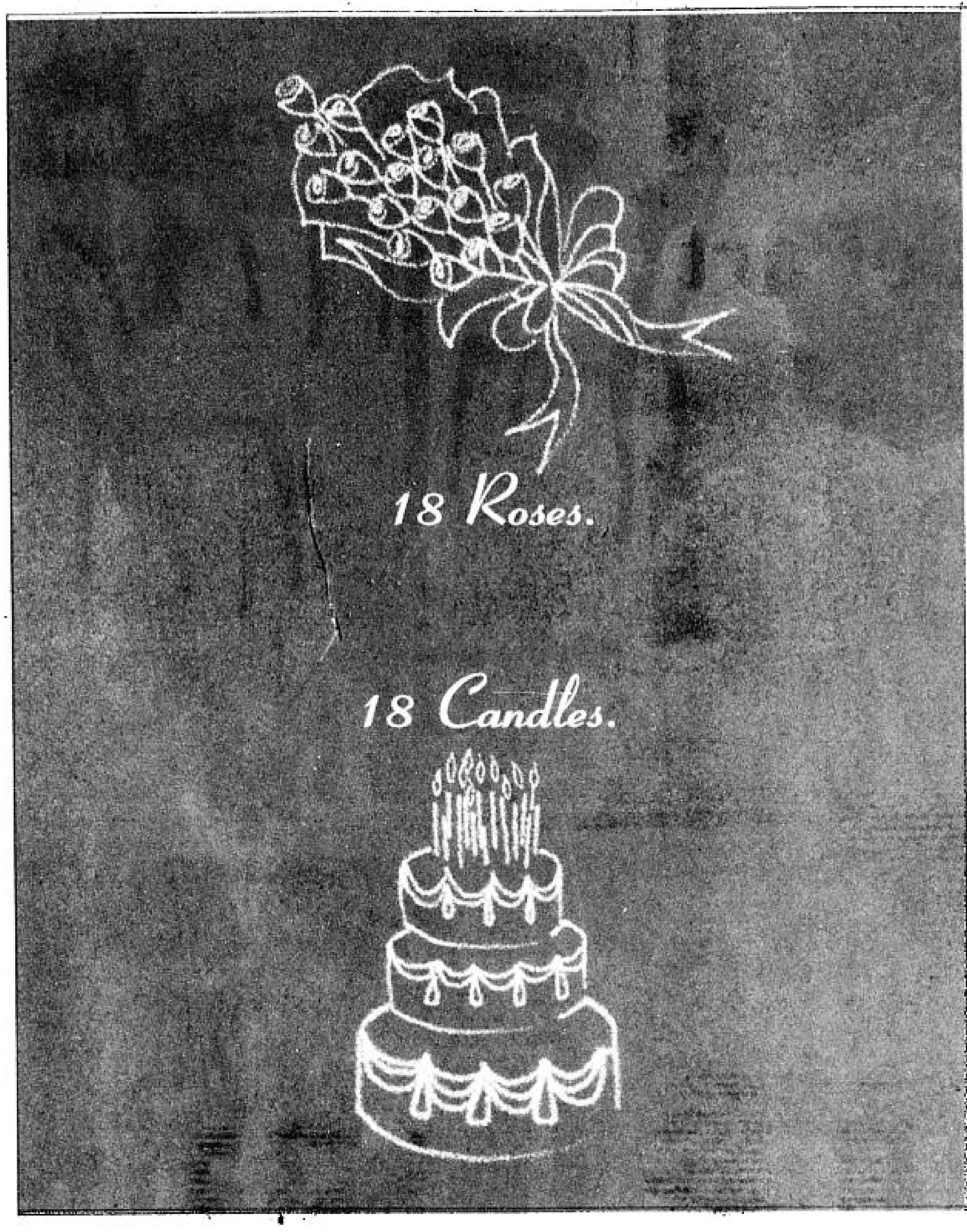
Those accepted into the program will be trained in BM's signature Vaganova technique.

The BM School also admits regular enrollees for the summer workshop. There are classes in five levels of ballet, from beginner's ballet to advanced ballet, pointe work, partnering and boy's class.

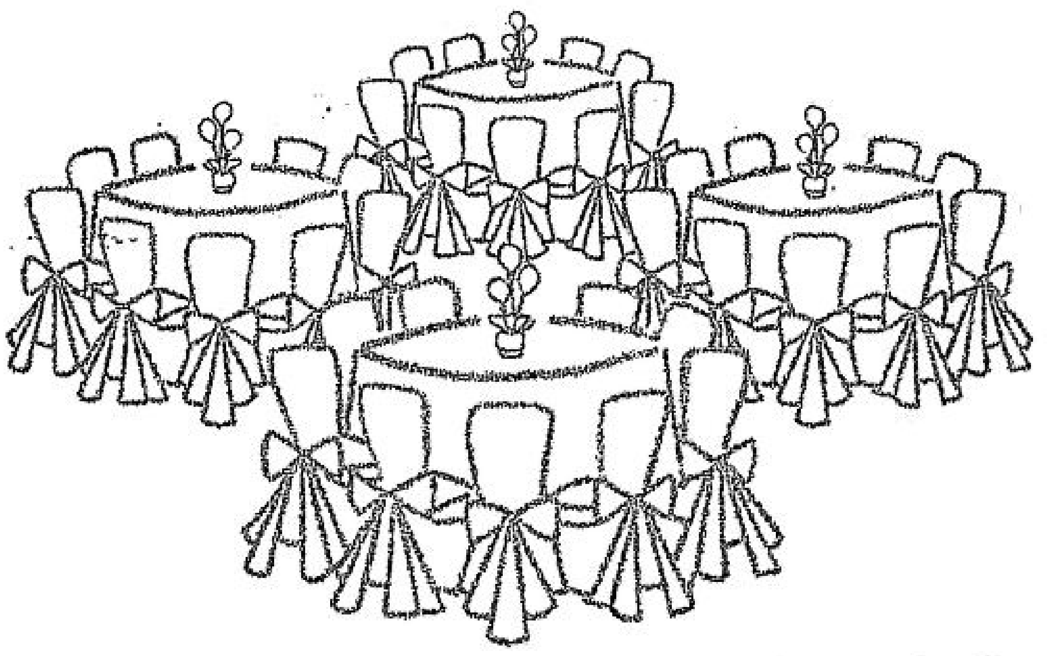
The summer classes will be held Mondays to Saturdays. Aside from Macuja and Barroso, the faculty includes BM soloists Pamela Asprer, Jeffrey Espejo, Elline Damian, Sandralynn Huang and Chris Mohnani and BM company member Eileen Lopez. Some classes will be handled by Russian ballet master Viktor Saveliev.

The workshop will culminate in a grand production on May 26 and 27 at the GSIS Theater in Pasay City, with the graduates performing alongside BM's roster of talents.

Call Ballet Manila at 525-5967, 512-5031/32 or 525-1584, or visit its website at www.balletmanila.com.


18 Roses.
18 Candles.

And all the elements for 1 memorable night.



Every daughter dreams of celebrating her 18th birthday in style. Every parent would love to make these dreams come true... at an affordable price. That's why The Manila Midtown offers a complete yet affordable Debut Package, so you can welcome your daughter into society in style... without going over your budget.

Debut package for 100 guests:
- Overnight accommodation for two in a Junior Suite, with breakfast
- Three-layered fondant birthday cake
- Eighteen long-stemmed fresh roses and bouquet for the debutante
- One glass of softdrink or juice per person
- Mobile disco
- Torch parade for cake-cutting ceremony
- 18 balloon centerpiece
- Balloon decor for the presidential table
- Balloon centerpiece for each table
- Guestbook and menu cards
- De luxe fruit basket (in the room)
- Special room and food discounts for friends and relatives

More amenities for 200 persons and above

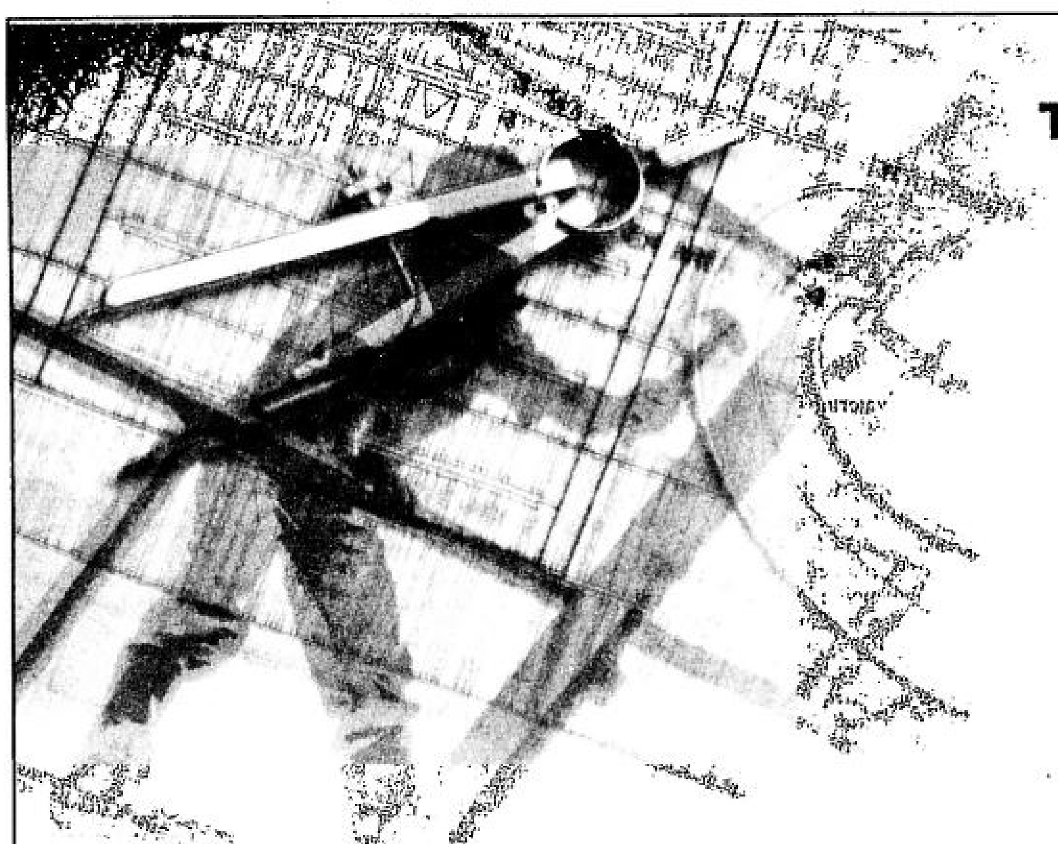
All for as low as P68,200!

MANILA MIDTOWN HOTEL
All you need. All in the heart of the City.

MANILA MIDTOWN HOTELS & LAND CORPORATION
A JG Summit Company

Corner Pedro Gil & M. Adriatico Streets, Ermita, Manila, Philippines
Telephone: (632)526-7001; Fax: (632)522-2629; E-mail: mmh_bs@netasia.net
http://www.manilamidtown.com

25 Years
MANILA MIDTOWN HOTEL
1976 · 2001

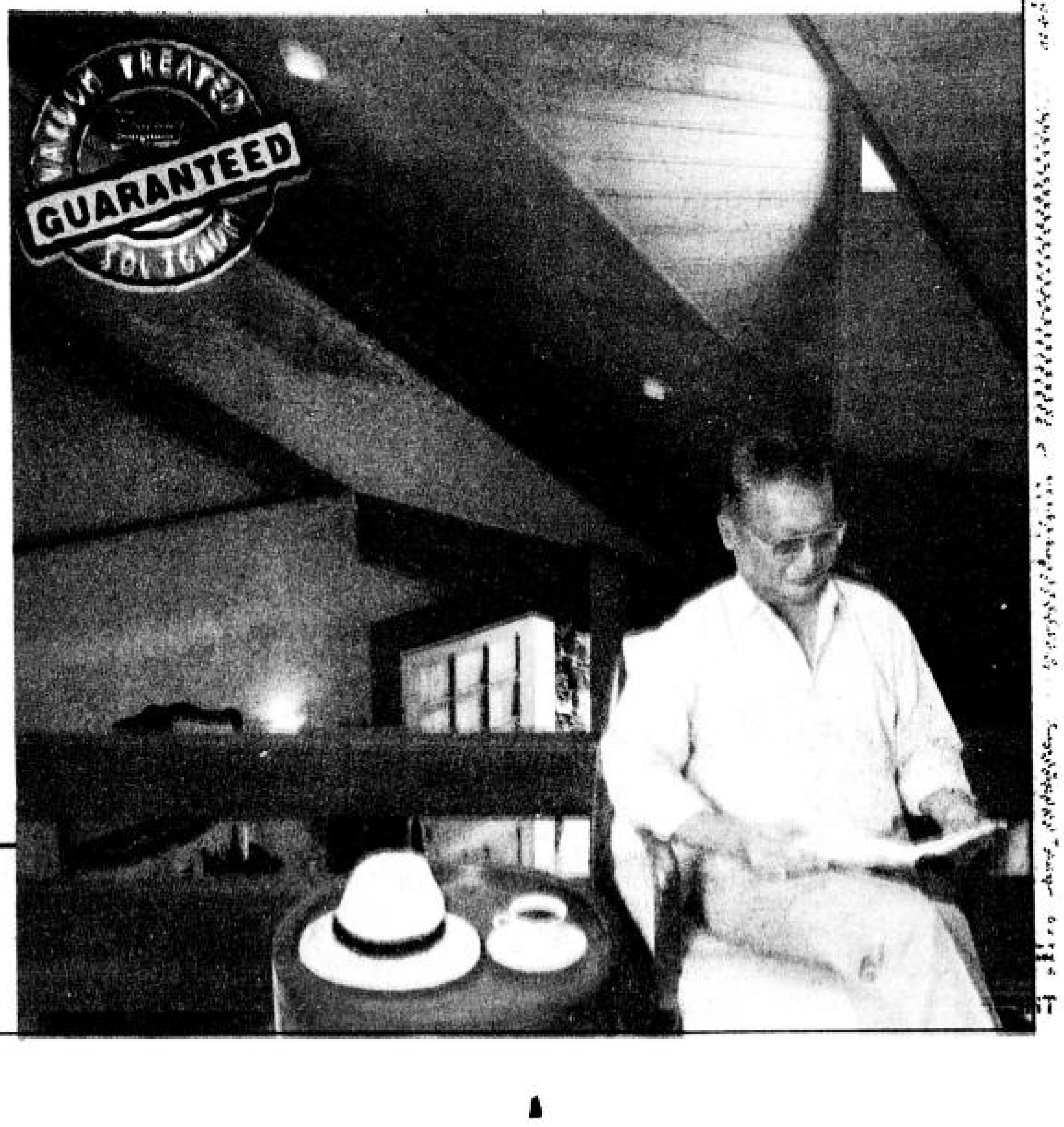


The wood that gives you peace of mind...

HOUSE BEAUTIFUL...

INSIDE OUT!

The better wood
MATWOOD
Matimco Treated Wood



Build your dream house with the sense of security that it will last for as long as you want it. From the start, safeguard it against termites, wood-boring pests and fungal attack.

Use the Better Wood — MATWOOD moulding, panelling, framing, flooring and door jambs.

MATWOOD is vacuum-treated with Solignum, a light organic solvent preservative that penetrates deep into the wood, giving that full protection against termites, wood-boring pests, and fungal attack.

MATWOOD allows you to enjoy the distinct appeal and warmth of wood, inside and out... with total peace of mind!

A Quality Wood Product of
MATIMCO
INCORPORATED
www.matimco.com

"We're part of your home."

Main Plant
Highway Estancia,
Mandaue, Cebu
☎ (032) 346-1080 to 83

Showrooms
- 5th Level SM Megamall
  Ortigas Center ☎ (02) 637-3314
- Anson's Arcade, Pasay Rd
  Makati City ☎ (02) 844-1583
- Highway Subangdaku
  Mandaue, Cebu ☎ (032) 346-1089
- Festival Mall, Alabang
  Muntinlupa City ☎ (02) 850-8517

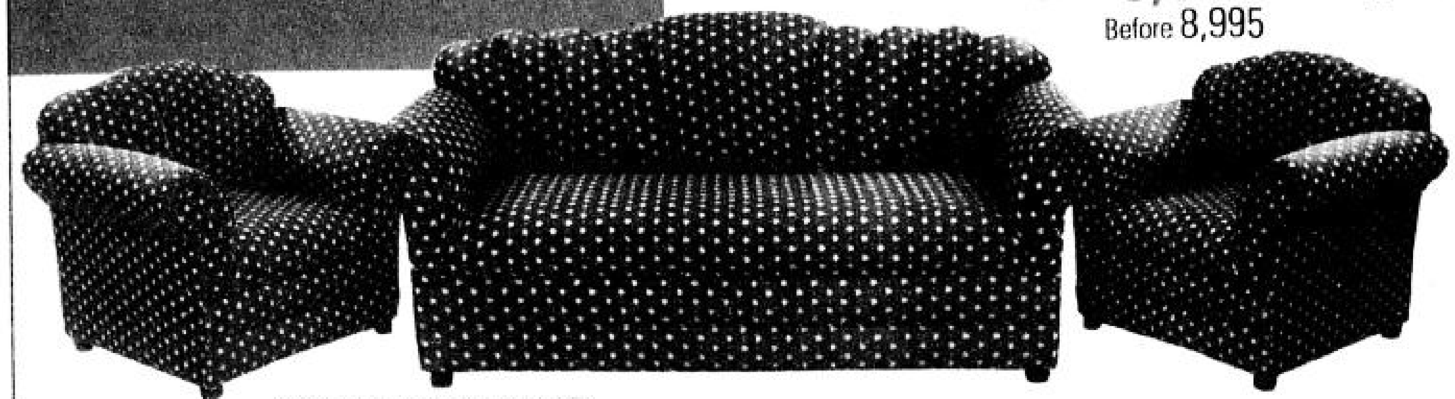
Manila Sales Offices
Balintawak, Quezon City
☎ (02) 366-7009
Las Piñas City, Metro Manila
☎ (02) 800-3557

Great savings start March 1

furniture SALE

GLADYS 3-pc LEATHER SOFA SET **Now 6,995** Before 8,995

OVAL DINING TABLE WITH 4 CHAIRS **Now 9,995** Before 14,950



CARACAS 3-pc LEATHER SOFA SET

Now 6,995

Before 8,995

up to 50% Savings

plus lots of spectacular values

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER WITH 1 DOOR # LR 52400

Now 1,995

Before 3,495

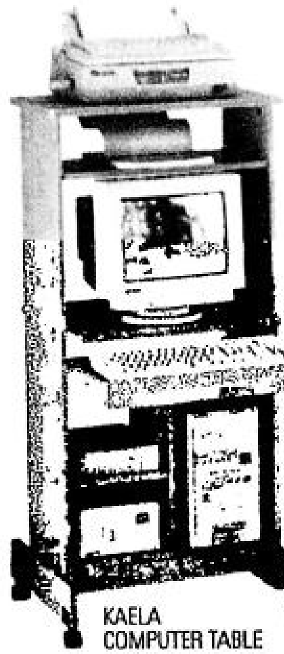
JESSIE 3-pc SOFA SET

Before 12,495 **Now 9,995**

3 x 5 ft. WALDEN DINING TABLE with 6 CHAIRS (91.44 x 152.4cm)

Now 8,995

Before 11,495



KAELA COMPUTER TABLE #CD-190

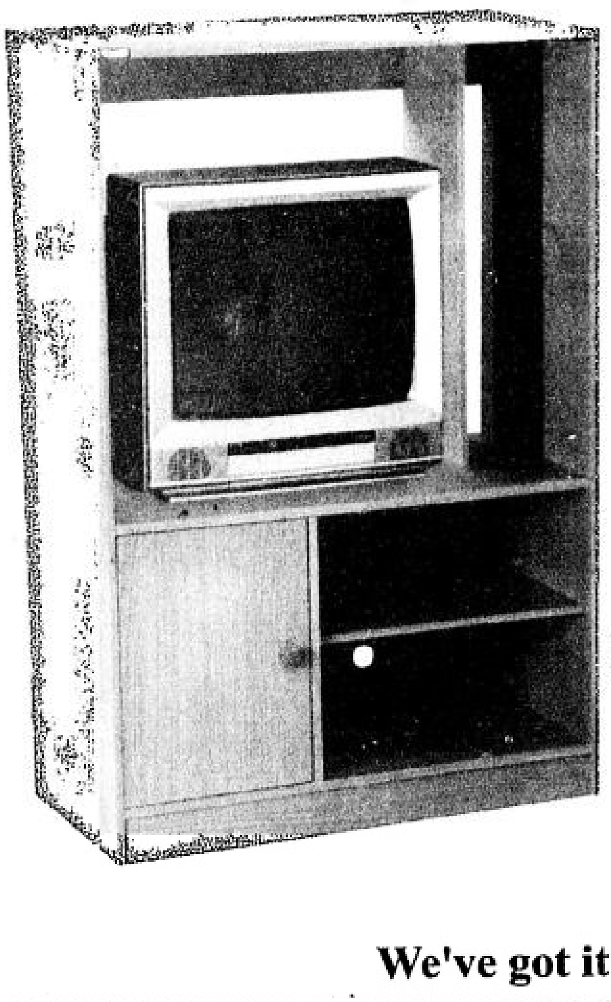
Now 2,295

Before 2,995

TRITON 3-pc SOFA SET

Now 8,995

Before 11,250



OFFICE TABLE WITH 3 DRAWERS #PH-2448

Now 1,995

Before 2,995

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER WITH 1 DOOR & CD RACK #NE 201

Now 1,995

Before 3,495

2 x 4 ft WALDEN DINING TABLE WITH 4 CHAIRS (60.96 x 121.92 cm) **Now 4,995** Before 7,295

SM HOMEWORLD

We've got it all for you!

Participating Branches: Makati / Cubao / North Edsa / Ortigas / Las Piñas / Manila

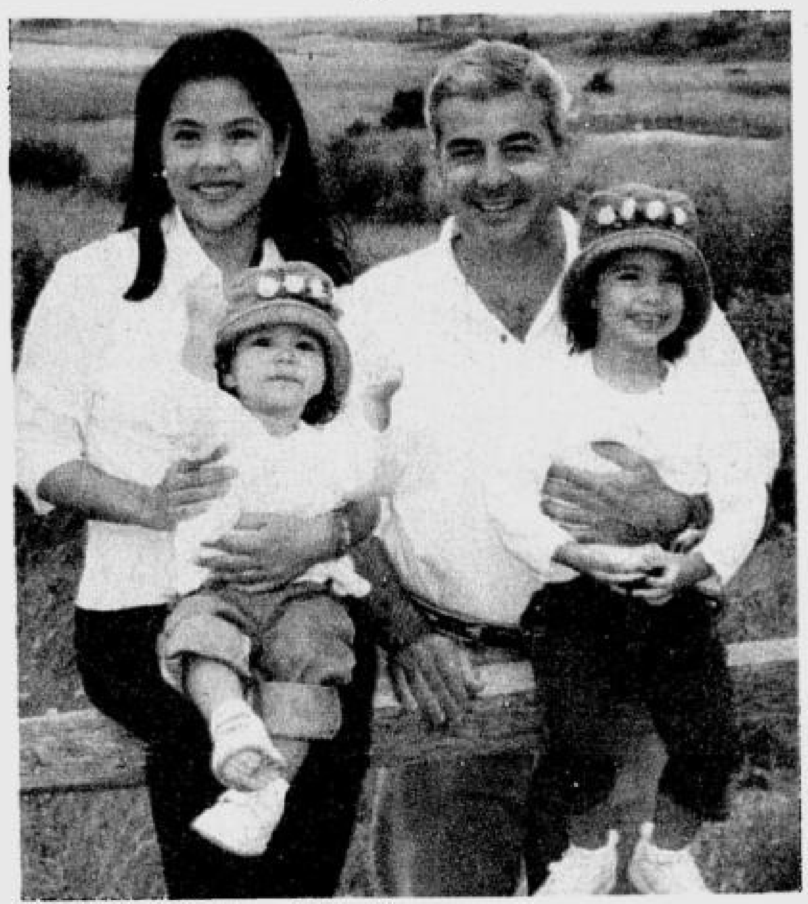
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0204 Series of 2000

QUIAPO • HOME CENTER MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PINAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • ILOILO • CEBU

Trend Spotting

LIFESTYLE

How Kit Zobel is not from a generation of doormat wives



KIT, Fernando, Sylvia and Natashia

The tycoon's wife tops the list of the Women We Love to Envy. But we must envy her for the right reasons

LIFE-STYLED

Thelma Sioson San Juan

IF you ask us girls to make a Women We Love to Envy list, chances are **Kit Zobel** would be on top of the heap. She's actively young, pretty, has an A-1 social set, seems like a fulfilled wife and mother. And—she's married to **Fernando Zobel de Ayala** of the clan that owns one of the biggest business conglomerates.

Unfortunately, upon closer look

HOW/ P.G4

WHAT'S ON AT ROBINSONS

FAMILY FUN WEEKENDS

GRAND FINALS
BULILIT SINGING STARS

Cheer on the country's future singing sensations in the Grand Finals of Bulilit Singing Star 20011 With special appearances by Carol Banawa and Din-Din Llarena.

March 10, Saturday, 4PM
Fountain Area
Robinsons Place Imus

ROBINSONS Place IMUS

visit us at www.robinsonsland.com

LET'S FACE IT

THE ONE-STOP FACIAL SALON

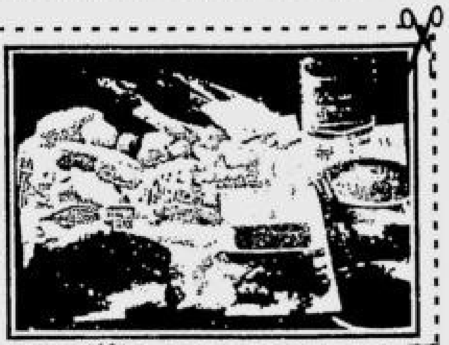
FACIAL w/ LASER & VACUUM w/ Free Check-Up	P220.
FACIAL w/ SEAWEED MASK w/ Free Check-Up	P330.
WARTS TREATMENT	P385.

FREE! LETS FACE IT POUCH BAG For every P1000.00 worth of products or services. OFFER GOOD WHILE SUPPLY LASTS

ACCEPTS ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

BRANCHES:
• 39 Aguirre cor. El Grande, B.F. Homes Parañaque 8253998 • SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr., Bldg. A 6365589
• SM CITY PAMPANGA 2nd Flr. (045) 9612150 • SM CITY NORTH EDSA 3rd Flr., Main Bldg. 9203152
• SM CITY BACOOR 2nd Flr. (046) 9706322 • SM SOUTHMALL Lower Ground Flr. 8003291

Soon to Open! ROBINSON'S PLACE, MANILA



HEALTHY BOWLS
All You Can Eat!
P299
Enterprise: Sat. (Lunch)
Alabang & Tagaytay: Mon.-Thur. (Lunch/Dinner)

COMBO A POT 'N TIN RICE TOPPINGS FREE SOUP For only P69

COMBO B KUTSIKATSU MEAL W/ FREE RICE & SOUP For only P89

COMBO C 2 TEMPURA LUNCH W/ FREE RICE, SOUP & DESSERT For only P129

COMBO D ORDER 2 SHABU-SHABU BEEF Or 2 SUKIYAKI (8 choices) GET 2 FREE RICE / DRINKS TOPPING & DESSERT For only P390

Shabu Shabu BAR & GRILL
• FESTIVAL MALL 3/F, Commerce Ave., Alabang Muntinlupa #850-4432
• ENTERPRISE CTR. 4/F, Paseo de Roxas St., Cor. Ayala Ave., Makati City #752-0738
• RESIDENCE INN Tagaytay Km. 65 Barrio Bagong Tubig, Tagaytay City (046) 413-1244/1376
• Reservations: Head Office 899-9824 / 20 899-9595 (350 / 388)

Be an EPS Smart Shopper and win exciting prizes for the people you love.

SHOP IN THE NAME OF LOVE
with Express Teller's EPS!

ENTERTAINMENT SHOWCASE
Relax and enjoy your favorite movies and music with your husband.
• Pioneer Projection TV M:SDP50A3T, 127cm (50")
• Pioneer DVD Player M:DV - 535X
• Pioneer Audio 6-speaker package VSX-D737

KITCHEN SHOWCASE
Prepare sumptuous meals with your daughter.
• LG Refrigerator GR - 342, 450.24 liters (15.9 cu.ft.)
• National Microwave Oven 5327 WF
• La Germania Gas Range with rangehood MP-957-21X

GAMES & AMUSEMENT SHOWCASE
Play cyber games with your son.
• Sony Playstation 2 w/ 4 CDs and transformer (Accessories : dance pad, gun, force reactor and dual shock)
• JVC Color TV 21P1P, 53.34 cm. (21")
• TV Rack

Express Payment System

Only Express Teller's EPS lets you shop smart - no lining up to withdraw and you enjoy the FULL sale price without carrying cash.

PROMO MECHANICS

1. All BPI/BPI Family Bank Express Teller and BPI Direct ATM cardholders who use the EPS from February 5 to April 1, 2001 can join the promo.

2. Every ₱1,000 EPS purchase in a single receipt will qualify a cardholder to one (1) computer-generated raffle number.

3. Only a maximum of five (5) raffle numbers in a day will be assigned to an accountholder who used the EPS.

4. Prizes are as follows:
* Daily Prizes -3 winners everyday of ₱1,000 each
* Grand Draw Prizes
First Prize -Entertainment Showcase
Second Prize -Kitchen Showcase
Third Prize -Games and Amusement Showcase

5. For the Daily Draws, the following shall apply:
5.1 Computer-generated raffle numbers assigned to EPS purchases on a particular date are valid for that date only.
5.2 An accountholder can win everyday, but only ONCE in each day's draw.
5.3 Draws will be held at the 15/F, BPI Head Office, Ayala Ave., Makati City on the following dates:

Purchase Dates	Draw Dates
Feb. 5 to Feb 11	Feb. 14
Feb. 12 to Feb 18	Feb. 21
Feb. 19 to Feb. 25	Feb. 28
Feb. 26 to March 4	March 7
March 5 to March 11	March 14
March 12 to March 18	March 21
March 19 to March 25	March 28
March 26 to April 1	April 4

A DTI representative will be present at each draw.
5.4 The ₱1,000 prize will be credited to the winner's account within seven (7) working days after the draw date.

6. For the Grand Draw, the following shall apply:
6.1 All computer-generated raffle numbers assigned to EPS purchases within the promo period are qualified for the Grand Draw.
6.2 Grand Draw will be held on April 4, 2001 at the 15/F, BPI Head Office, Ayala Avenue cor, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City.
6.3 An accountholder can only win once. If drawn more than once, he will get the prize with the higher value.
6.4 All Grand Prize winners can claim their prizes at 15/F BPI Head Office Ayala Ave. Makati City. Just present your Express Teller ATM card and one (1) valid ID (driver's license, company ID, SSS ID).
6.5 Prizes are not convertible to cash. All prizes are tax-free.

7. List of account numbers with corresponding computer-generated raffle numbers will be available at the following locations:
• BPI Main Branch, BPI Head Office, Ayala Ave., Makati City • BPI Family Bank Main Branch, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
• BPI Baguio Burnham Branch, Baguio City
• BPI Cebu-Mango Branch, Cebu City

8. Winners will be notified by registered mail. Complete list of winners will be published in a major newspaper with national circulation at the end of the promo.

9. Unclaimed prizes after 60 days from receipt of notification shall be forfeited with prior approval from DTI.

10. All Express Teller/BPI Direct accounts that are closed/terminated, dormant, under litigation or garnished during the promo period are disqualified.

11. All employees of BPI Unibank, its advertising and PR agencies, and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified.

12. In case of dispute, the decision of BPI Unibank, with the concurrence of DTI, shall be deemed final.

PLUS
You can also win ₱1,000 everyday!
Promo open to, all BPI/BPI Family Bank Express Teller and BPI Direct Cardholders.

150 YEARS
BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
A tradition of leadership

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0284 Series of 2001

RIPPED and torn jacket with lots of zippers

SLASHED T-shirt with safety pin

Punk is back

Dog collars, studded wristbands, wide studded belts—Anonymous items that inject a little excitement in the anonymous military look or utility chic

PHOTOS BY WAHOO GUERRERO

WHILE most retailers insist that military look is in (after all, the clothes are safe, bordering on the classic), the discriminating fashionista can do a hint of punk. You know, dog collars and studded wristbands with feminine dresses, or wide studded belts worn over soft suits.

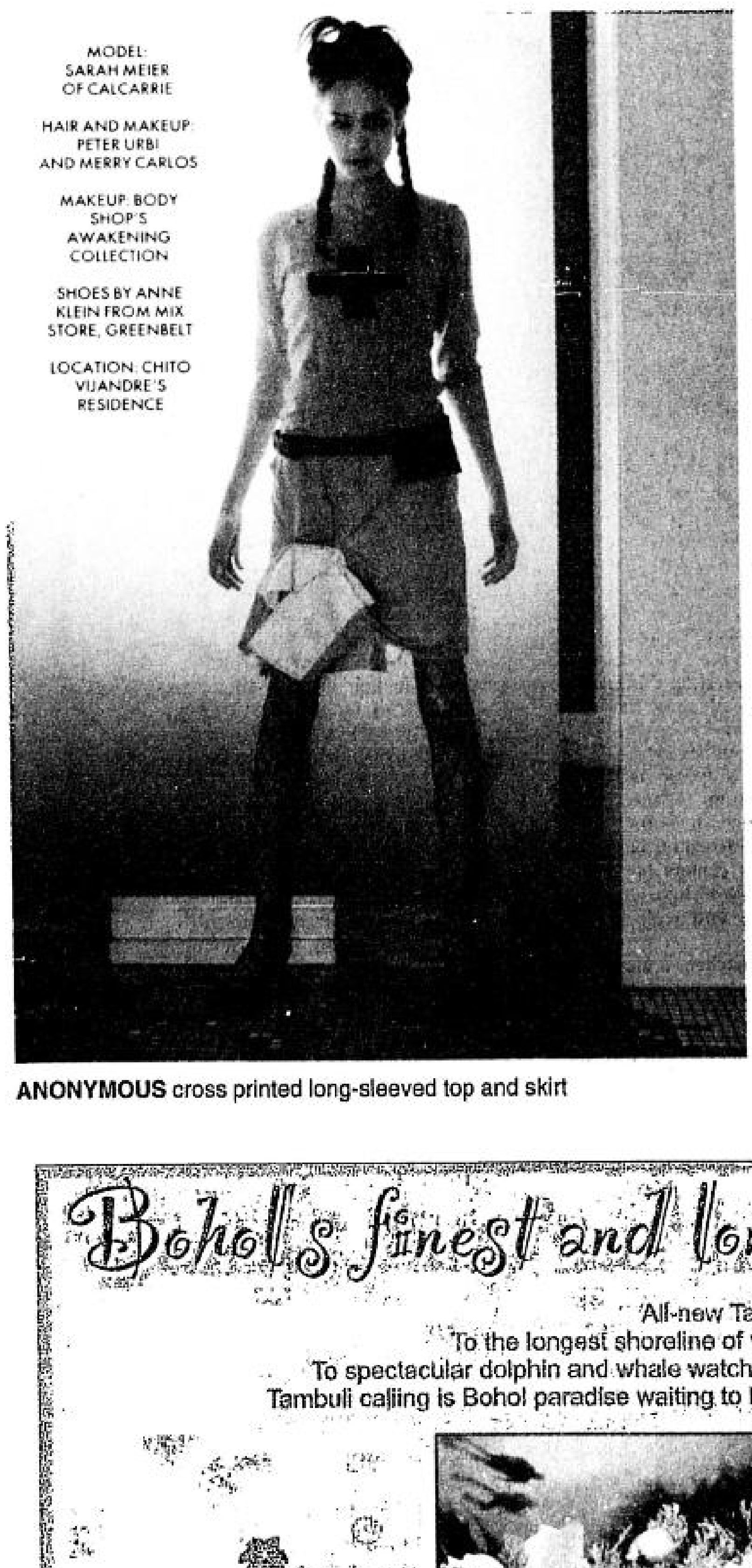
Tomorrow, Anonymous, that trendy, pocket-friendly clothing chain store, will hold a fashion show at the NBC Tent at Fort Bonifacio at 8 p.m. The theme is pure punk. Styled by Michael Salientes and Meliss La'O, the collection is a deliberate attempt at anti-fashion. Titled, "A to Z: Anonymous to Zed," it is conceptualized by Keren Pascual and directed by Ariel Lozada. It is part of a party thrown by Zed. You'll see a lot of Anonymous basic items that are torn and slashed, bondage gear, vinyl, safety pins, combat boots and fishnets.

The look really started with Rei Kawakubo. Vivienne Westwood did layers, rips, tights, leather collars and plaid.

You'll love a piece or two of the bad-girl fashion to neutralize the military and utility chic styling that have been around since the last season.

What the show really says is that punk is very personal. It is about you and the way you choose to wear the clothes. Who needs fashion dictators?

ANONYMOUS blouse paired with brown skirt, tulle and boots



MODEL:
SARAH MEIER
OF CALCARRIE

HAIR AND MAKEUP:
PETER URBI
AND MERRY CARLOS

MAKEUP: BODY
SHOP'S
AWAKENING
COLLECTION

SHOES BY ANNE
KLEIN FROM MIX
STORE, GREENBELT

LOCATION: CHITO
VIJANDRE'S
RESIDENCE

ANONYMOUS cross printed long-sleeved top and skirt

BINGO HARIA
BINGO
bench/
Rustan's
Xpresslane
ROBINSONS D
mercury drug
mercury drug
mercury drug

Great Shopping Bargains: More than 100 Greenhills shops now c

Bohol's finest and longest white sand beach is calling...

All-new Tambuli is calling you.
To the longest shoreline of white sand and clear waters in Bohol.
To spectacular dolphin and whale watching. To the premiere diving spot in the Philippines.
Tambuli calling is Bohol paradise waiting to be found. Rediscover the new **Tambuli Resorts**. Now.

BOHOL BEACH CLUB
BLUE SKY-SEA RESORT

MODEL: GEORGETTE SANCHEZ OF BALLET PHILIPPINES

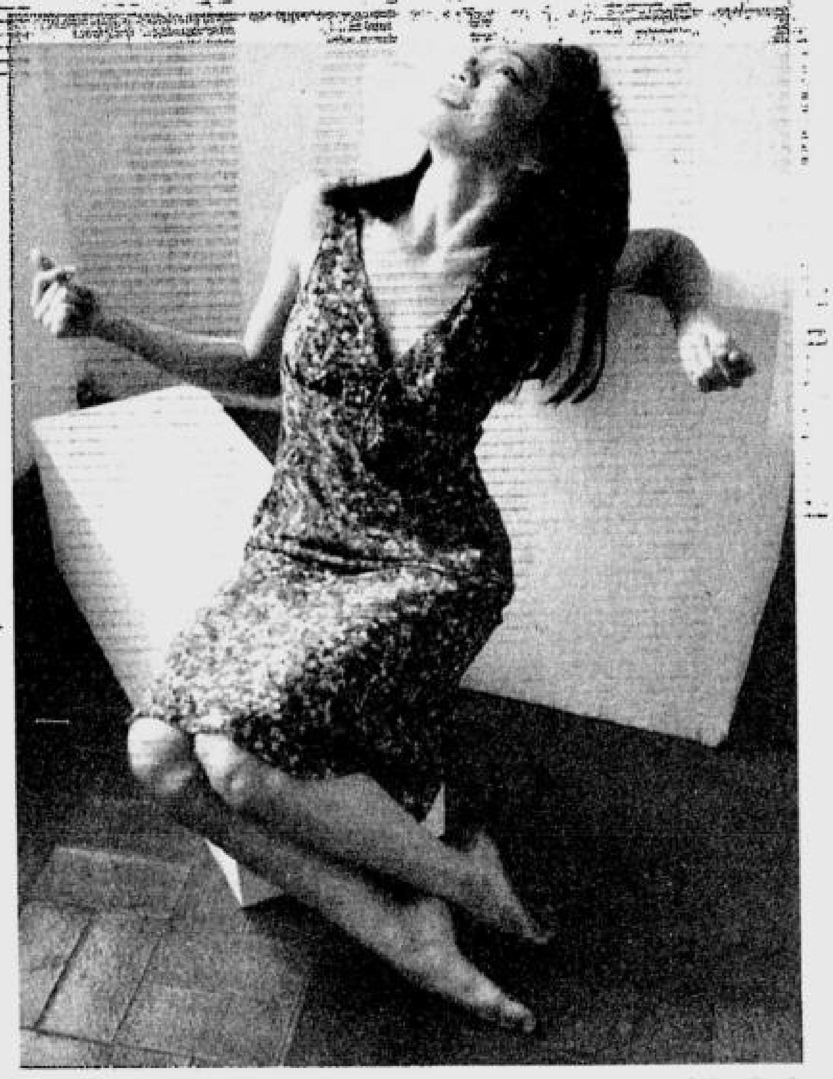
HAIR AND MAKEUP BY JOJO ARJONA FOR TENG ROMA OF EMPHASIS SALON, ROCKWELL INFORMATION CENTER

LONG-SLEEVED sheer top, P795; khaki skirt, P895

GREEN and aqua printed skirt (comes with matching top).

PANTS with ribbon accents, P898

Environmentalism has made green trendy. It's a challenging color. It can make you either a fashion triumph or a fashion victim



FLORAL dress, P1,295

Green revolution

BY CAMILLE T. CRUZ
PHOTOS BY CHITO VECINA
PICTORIAL DIRECTION BY ALBERT AVELLANA

ASIDE for the food I eat, green is a presence in my life because of clothes. Not only have I seen it on men's T-shirts or polos in a shade darker than the forest, but also in women's daily attire—shirts, pants or skirts.

Green could be found in prints, a casual pair of cargos, or camouflage.

Green has always conjured images of dirt especially if it comes in shades darker than cucumber peel, a difficult color to match. It is always,a challenge to make this color work.

The solution is to wear prints. A printed floral dress, for example, balances the plainness of green.

Unfortunately, not all skin tones are amenable to green. Somebody once wore a dark green suit, which was flattering on her. She was Jewish, had dark brownish-reddish hair and pink skin.

For those who love green, you might be better off in other colors. Better yet, maybe you can wait and get some ideas from the military, which makes green so fashionable.

E-mail the author at camille_cruz@hotmail. com

All items available at Tokyo Fashion, G/F Festival Mall, Filinvest, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa; G/F Glorietta III, Ayala Center, Makati City

Beauty in the cyber age

THEY live in real time, work 24/7 and never fail to amaze us with their mind-sharing attitude.

SM Health and Beauty salutes the dynamic women of the new economy—women on the Web, dotcom divas, cyber career professionals—Pinoycentral's Gretchen Malalad, CAL Computer School's Joana Pamintuan and Doubleslash Media's Cynthia Rilloraza.

Here, they share with us their thoughts on the concept of beauty in the Internet age, whether they go for well-planned beauty regimens or quick fixes, and the Health and Beauty advantage.

Cynthia Rilloraza, technical specialist, Doubleslash Media

Cynthia Rilloraza is a technical specialist for Doubleslash Media and a Web applications integrator.

As a techie, Cynthia utilizes information technology to keep abreast of the latest fashion and beauty trends. "Dynamic changes in trends and products require a dynamic generation of information," she says. "The Net gives all that."

Likewise, she sticks to a well-planned beauty regimen that can best be described as basic and natural. She simply cleanses, tones and moisturizes her face, and then exercises.

With her busy schedule, "SM Health and Beauty is perfect for a career person like me," she says. "This store takes out the tension when I have to look for products on an everyday basis. I go there every other week to replenish the items I have consumed and to search for new products."

Gretchen Malalad, assistant to the producer, Pinoycentral

The best part of Gretchen Malalad's work as assistant to the producer of sports at Pinoycentral is that it centers on her two loves: sports and technology.

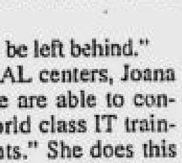
Gretchen, a karatedo national athlete, is preparing for the Asian Karate Championship in Hong Kong this month and the Southeast Asian Games in Kuala Lumpur this September.

In a business where the greatest challenge is "keeping up with a world that moves at Internet speed," Gretchen believes that looking good and feeling great boosts one's self-confidence, and ultimately makes you perform more effectively in the workplace.

Gretchen keeps her beauty routine simple—getting enough rest and always keeping her face clean. With her busy schedule both in—sports and in Pinoycentral, she confesses that she goes more for "quick fixes. I'm the type of person who's always on the go, and don't have the time to go to a dermatologist for my skin or the parlor for a hot oil treatment or a manicure."

That is why "shopping for your needs in a one-stop shop like SM Health and Beauty is very convenient. Health and Beauty has a wide array of products—from cosmetics to toiletries—and I don't have to go from one store to another to shop for all my needs."

Joana Pamintuan, area manager, CAL Computer School



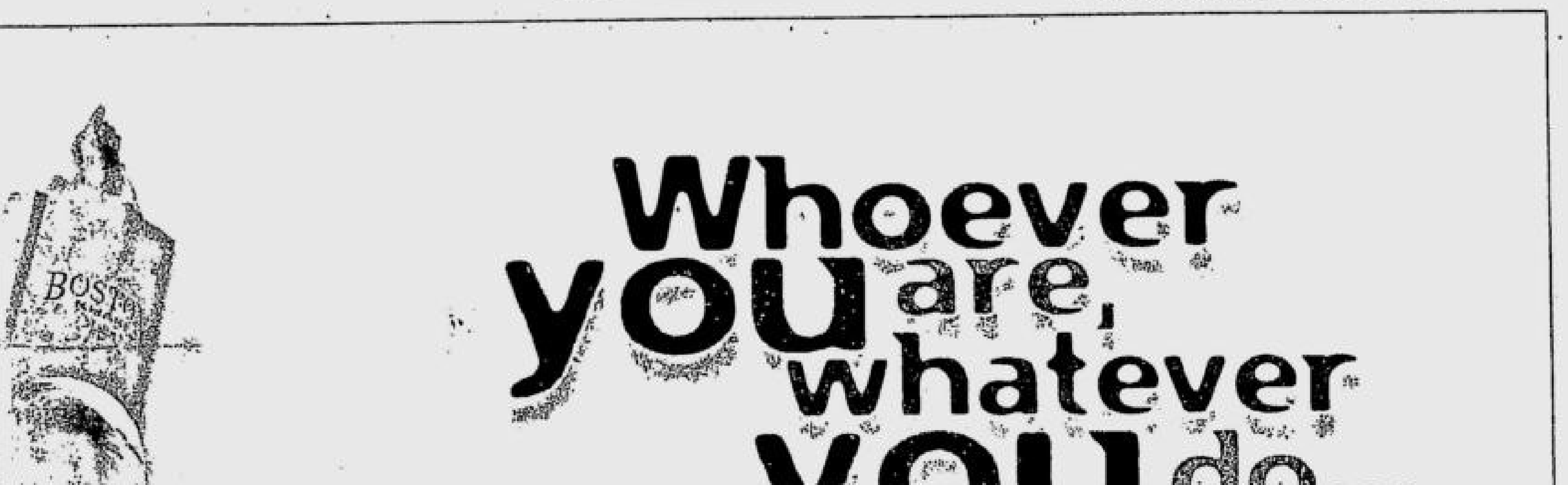
"Information technology is so dynamic," says Joana Pamintuan, area manager of the CAL Computer School. "Something new comes up every day, and if you're slow, you'll be left behind."

As head of six CAL centers, Joana makes sure that "we are able to consistently provide world class IT training to all our students." She does this by having a "hands-on participation in the development of all our programs."

Because she has to face a lot of people every day in her line of work, Joana says that looking good and feeling great is important to her. A true techie, she logs in sites like wwwbeautybiz.com and wwwmakeupdiva.com for information on health, fitness and beauty.

Joana loves going to SM Health and Beauty because "practically all my needs are there. More importantly my favorite toiletries are always in stock."

We asked Joanna to pick out her must-haves from Health and Beauty and she readily singled out the following—Clinique Body Moisturizer, RL Woman Perfume, Revlon Line and Shine, 2BU makeup ("it's trendy and handy") and Fashion 21 eyebrow liner.

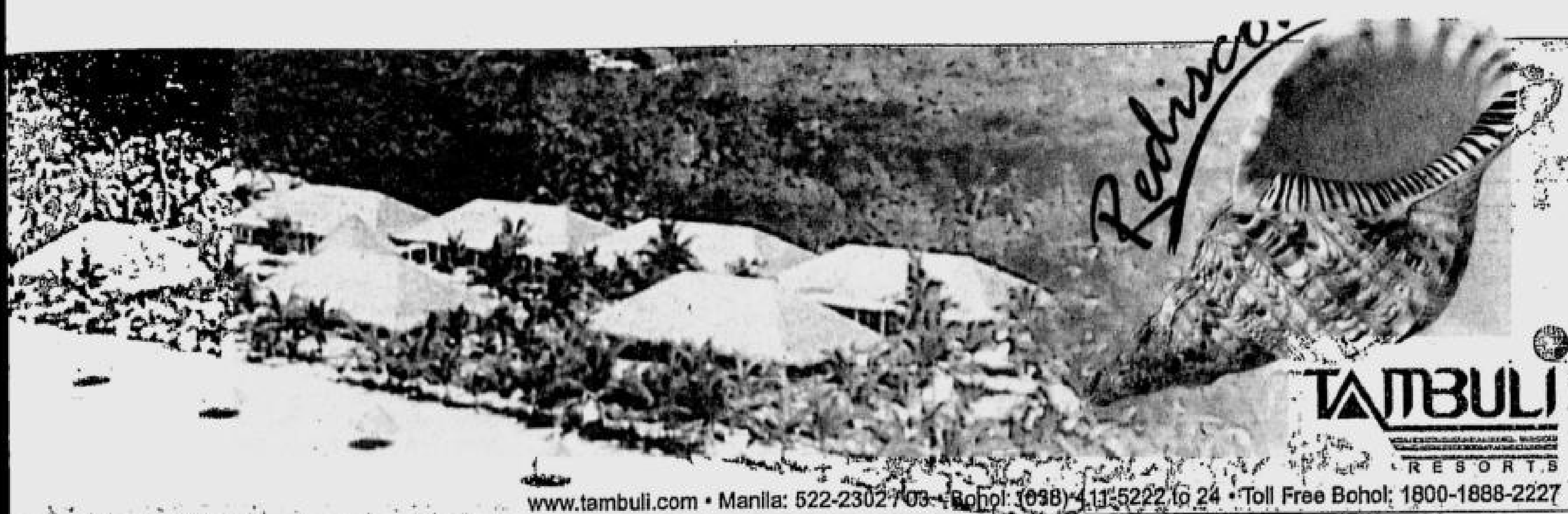

Whoever you are, whatever you do...

You're the star of the new starmall

starmall
EDSA cor. Shaw

METROPOLIS star
South Super Hi-way, Alabang

pen at Fashion Station, 3rd level Starmall



www.tambuli.com • Manila: 522-2302 / 03 • Bohol: (038) 411-5222 to 24 • Toll Free Bohol: 1800-1888-2227

Tambuli Summer Packages

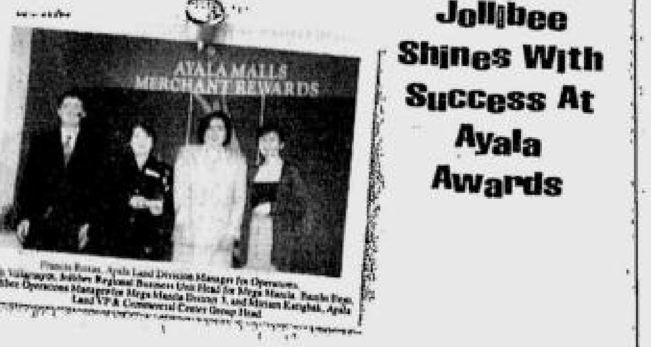
- Standard P5,100 (single / twin)
- Premium P7,300 (single / twin).

Inclusions
- Roundtrip land transfer
- 3 days / 2 nights accommodation
- Welcome drink
- Daily breakfast for 2
- 10% discount on Club Aquasport facilities (excluding Jetskis)

*** Valid from March 1- April 7, 2001 and April 17-30, 2001.

Jollibee Journal

Jollibee Shines With Success At Ayala Awards



Francis Roxas, Ayala Land Division Manager for Operations, [illegible], Jollibee Regional Business Unit Head for Mega Manila, [illegible] Jollibee Operations Manager for Mega Manila District 3, and Miriam [illegible], Ayala Land VP & Commercial Center Group Head

Jollibee Glorietta 4 and Jollibee Ayala Center, Cebu shone at the recently-held Ayala Malls Merchant Rewards 2000 ceremony. The prestigious event honoring outstanding store performance was held at the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Intercontinental Manila.

The annual ceremony showers accolades on exceptional stores from three different Ayala Malls: Ayala Center, Makati, Alabang Town Center, and Ayala Center, Cebu. Winners are judged based on stringent Ayala Malls standards of cleanliness, customer service, observance of house rules, and sales target achievement.

Jollibee Glorietta 4 was honored with a Store Operations Excellence Award, and Jollibee Ayala Center, Cebu received an award for Marketing Excellence in the Food Category.

The Jollibee family is proud to share in the shining successes of its members. Congratulations, Jollibee Glorietta 4 and Jollibee Ayala Center, Cebu!

Tayo Na Sa Jollibee Tagum City!

Gov. Rodolfo P. del Rosario, Mrs. Emily Alvarez, and Jollibee RBU Head for VisMin Dennis Flores join Jollibee at the ribbon-cutting ceremony

Jollibee recently opened its very first store in Tagum City, Davao.

Recently converted from a Municipality to a City in 1998, Tagum City is young, fresh, and full of bright possibilities. Less than two hours north of Davao's capital, this fast-developing city is a fitting place for the newest member of the likewise fast-growing Jollibee family.

Gracing the store opening ceremony were Governor Rodolfo P. del Rosario, Mrs. Emily Alvarez, wife of Sec. Bebot Alvarez of the Dept. of Transportation & Communications, and Dennis Flores, Jollibee Regional Business Unit Head for Visayas-Mindanao.

Jollibee Tagum City is located at the National Highway corner Pioneer Avenue, Tagum City, Davao del Norte.

Sali Kami Sa Sambalilo!

Jollibee at the Sambalilo Street Parade

Recently, Jollibee joined Parañaque City in its celebration of the fourth Sambalilo Festival. In the joyous tradition of the festival, Jollibee joined merry-makers garbed in colorful hats and gorgeous costumes as they celebrated on the streets.

A burst of excitement was added to the street parade by the spirited participation of Jollibee. His colorful presence and special dance performance delighted spectators!

Jollibee can't wait to join Parañaque City again in next year's Sambalilo Festival!

Jolly Jamboree Sa Tarlac!

Jollibee F. Tañedo, [illegible] and SMART [illegible] turn over trash drums to the Tarlac Girl Scouts Council, headed by [illegible], Chief Council

Jollibee F. Tañedo Tarlac recently sponsored the 30th Provincial Encampment of the Girl Scouts of the Philippines, Tarlac Chapter. The jovial get-together took place at Camp Planas, San Juan de Mata, Tarlac City.

Thousands of Junior and Senior Scouts participated in the week-long encampment, along with the townspeople of the Tarlac Province, who eagerly help out with the event every year.

This was Jollibee's first enjoyable foray into the event. Aside from providing the Girl Scouts with langhap-sarap snacks and refreshments, Jollibee himself roused the Scouts with an entertaining dance number, and visited the different tents at the campsite. Jollibee also joined in the many exciting educational activities that are the trademark of such Girl Scout events. The management and staff of Jollibee F. Tañedo turned over trash drums to the Girl Scouts, in support of proper care for the environment.

For feedback, comments, suggestions, please write to:

Jollibee Journal
c/o the Marketing Division, Jollibee Center
San Miguel Ave., Pasig City, Philippines
journal@jollibee.com.ph

Jollibee.

How Kit Zobel is not from a generation . . .

(From page G1)

at her, like I did over lunch last Tuesday, women could be envying this thirtysomething for the same old shallow reasons, which skip the substance altogether. If you have all of the above, what more can you ask for?

A lot, we learned from her. Specifically, many millions of pesos more, and a great deal of ideals more. For Kit is going through her own learning curve these days. She's trying to master the art of using a conglomerate such as her husband's Ayala group, and the social network and goodwill she and her family have built, to raise enough financial and social support for a network of schools which she believes could help make a difference in the lives of impoverished but intelligent and talented children. She's trying to learn fast how to use her social stature to call attention to what she believes, and we agree, is a nonperishable cause—education.

Develop critical thinkers

She admitted that she and Fernando have gone over their list of friends and associates again and again in trying to reach an audience who'd listen to her advocacy. She had to get used to "being *pakapal*," to the point that her close friends such as **Pops Fernandez** and GMA 7's **Lory Jimenez Westfall** know Kit's Centex project as if by rote.

She came to lunch dressed so casual, in cotton shirt, without makeup, her thick black hair held back only by a clasp, but the lunch talk was anything but casual. It was very insightful, as she and Centex project director **Carol Atacador** talked about the intelligence of those Tondo children, their real lives divorced from the classroom, the rearing of children including hers and Fernando's, the state of textbooks in the country, the elitist values in schools, the hypocrisy of some sectarian schools that discriminate against children of broken homes—and doormat housewives. It was so engrossing that we forgot to throw Kit the must-ask lifestyle questions on beauty and fashion (you can forgive me for that), we even forgot to talk about Fernando Zobel (you can't forgive me for that).

Centex (Center of Excellence in Public Elementary Education) is a very interesting and innovative project born out of Ayala's **Vicky Garchitorena**'s old ties to Carol—the two were classmates at the College of the Holy Spirit and have kept in touch since. It seeks to pick out intelligent children among the poor who can't enjoy quality education otherwise, and to put them in a school dedicated to the mastery of basic skills, with high emphasis on critical thinking and life skills, or how to apply in daily life what you learn in the classroom.

"We allow them to blossom—developing the full capability of the brain—with strong sense of values," said Carol.

So in short, I asked, when they graduate from Grade 6, what sort of creatures would they be? "They can sit here and answer your questions in a brilliant way," she said. "We want to develop critical thinkers and servant leaders. Our country have so many leaders, but look at the sorry mess we're in."

Developing curriculum has been the forte of Carol who was in the education board of California before she was convinced by Vicky to come home.

Enlightenment

Carol is an interesting woman. With three masteral degrees (linguistics, reading and school administration), she's lived in the United States for 30 years, most of it spent in education. Briefly in 1969, she worked as systems analyst and training specialist in Wall Street, with the Chemical Bank and Trust Co., but she gave up that corporate mecca to head a school in south Bronx. In New York, she was given a choice between working in the Jesuit school Regis and the Bronx; she chose the latter.

"I found my enlightenment there. I was uncomfortable, guilty about not having to serve here in the country because of martial law, and I thought working in the Bronx would compensate for that," she said. "I found meaning in doing work from the grassroots."

She worked in education in the Bronx for 13 years. Her life's surprises didn't end there. Unmarried all these years, Carol inherited two children.

Years ago she had a best friend, an American woman, who was married to Carol's doctor. Her best friend died of cancer only a month after the doctor husband did, leaving behind two children. But her best friend died well prepared—she made a will leaving her estate and two children to Carol. So in a day Carol found herself presiding over the estate and having to raise two sons, then aged 17 and 15.

The two are now grown, done with college and seem to be doing well. You ask, what sort of woman would you entrust with the future of your children and their fortune as well? That's Carol.

Yearning

Kit, Ayala's **Berry Marfori** and I were incredulous listening to this facet of Carol's life. If she, a single woman, could raise two boys—not hers—rather well, then she must be doing something good with the 225 schoolchildren in Tondo, and another 76 in Bauan, Batangas—the two Centex schools.

"When you go to the classroom and see the yearning of those children to learn, you're touched," said Kit.

The Centex's Tondo school now has three grades and has only one dropout—a boy whom they never heard from because his squatter family was relocated suddenly. "We learned from that," said Carol. "Now when a child misses a day, we seek him out."

By giving the children transportation allowance and two meals a day, Centex aims to hurdle physical barriers to learning. "Academic pressure is not what will get these kids, it's economic pressure," said Carol. Centex also has a strong parent program.

After three years of operation, the Centex children have been topping DECS' national exams and winning gold medals in elocution and reading contests.

From grade six on, the children could face bigger hurdles when they move, for instance, to private schools where the social-economic gap could work against them. This early, Centex is building a self-esteem program for them and is tapping the expertise of a well-known child psychiatrist.

Us versus them

When I reminded her that the values formation system in our elite schools is apparently missing the mark, Carol gave a very good insight which we hope will be heard by the priests and nuns: "It's a failure because the socio-economic divide is heavily marketed in private schools. It's us-versus-them thinking. The saleability of private schools hinges on whether we're the elite or not." And even after People Power II, we have yet to see a concerted effort among educators to address this.

Carol is only on sabbatical leave from her work in the US. Her St. Joseph's School in Berkeley, California, has been given a $1 million grant for total technology by the Clinton government—a task that awaits her. And just before she left for Manila last year, she was approached by director Steven Spielberg to put up a school giving alternative education in Sausalito, California—one of the many social projects of the Hollywood icon.

But for now, she and Kit are determined to put up 100 Centex schools all over the country. This cause is a logical step for Kit who graduated from Family Life and Child Development at UP.

Family time

She said that Fernando has always encouraged her to seek advocacy and the education of children is what she feels strongly about.

"I've been so blessed. When what you see around you is not right, you just can't complain. You can stand up against the wrong. You can do something about it," she said.

The Zobels have two daughters, aged 4 and 2. Of 4- and 5-year-olds, Carol gave this insight to parents: "This age can lie through their teeth. They're for self-preservation, so they must be taught that fear must never be superseded by the need to tell the truth."

Kit and Fernando can be strict parents whose No. 1 rule for their children is respect of elders—"Not only us but everyone in our household, including the help."

Fernando's time with his kids is at night when he's not above "playing witchy-witchy" with them, meaning he has this stuffed witch from Halloween which his daughters love to be foisted on them before the father turns off the bedroom light. Weekends are strictly family time when they either go out of town or be with the dad as he goes looking for fine Filipino crafts and antiques.

Kit said she hardly has the interest to talk business with her husband, not after a hard day in the office, but they can talk politics and on such issues they have yet to disagree.

Kit is glad that she married into a family with strong political beliefs. A doormat housewife is not for her, apparently.

"When you trust and respect each other, you can share and speak out your mind," she said.

Centex is mounting "The Music of Dreams" concert on March 16 at PICC, with the Ayala Foundation and the ABS-CBN Foundation, featuring a power cast (e.g. **Regine Velasquez**, Pops Fernandez, **Lani Misalucha**), to raise funds.

When and if Kit sets up 100 schools all over the country—and she will—then she truly becomes the woman to envy. We know that we're producing a generation of young women of substance, not just of style. That should make up for the Filipino generation of doormat wives.

E-mail the author at tsanjuan@link.com.ph

Nestea
EXTRA SWEET MEALS
P69
P79
P89

PINOY TOPPING
Mini Bursilog, Arroz ala Cubana, 2 pcs. Longganisa with Egg, Rice and Soup

SIZZLING PLATE
Hawaiian Burger with Java Rice and Mixed Vegetables

PANSIT MALABON
Chicken BBQ, Lechon Kawali, 1 pc. Puto, Rice and Soup

KIMCHI
Korean BBQ, Belly Liempo

Shin Chia TEAHOUSE
Beef Oyster, Lumpiang Shanghai and Rice

ILONGGO GRILL
Pork Steak with Vegetables Siding and Rice

Inihaw EXPRESS
Choice of: Sinigang na Baboy, Kare-kare, Sisig, served with Vegetables, Rice and Soup

QUEEN'S Ilocano Food
Kare-kare and Rice

BULALOHAN
Grilled Porkchop, Pansit & Rice

KAMAY KAINAN
Kalderetang Baka, Fried Lumpia Togue, Rice and Soup

GOTO KING
Regular Batchoy and Fried Lumpia

HEN LIN MAMI DIMSUM HOUSE
Wanton or Beef Mami, 2 pcs. Mini Cuapao

WEI•CHUAN FOODS
Lumpiang Shanghai, Fried Chicken, Plain Rice & Soup

Sandy's Cuisine
Beef with Chili, Kangkong with Oyster Sauce, Plain Rice and Soup

LaChesca
Kare-kare, Shanghai Rolls and Rice

LYDIA'S LECHON
Sisig, Rice with Vegetables

Chin's eXpress
Choice of: Lechon Macao, Beef in Oyster Sauce, Crispy Chicken, served with Vegetables, Rice and Soup

WOK'S COOKIN'
Spareribs and Plain Rice

ISDA
Fried Saliyasi or Fish Lumpia Pansit Canton, 2 Rice & Soup

Luring's barbeque house
Kare-kare and Rice

MING'S GARDEN CHINESE CUISINE
Crispy Chicken, Beef Brisket, Miki Guisado, Rice and Soup

Otochan Express
Tonkatsu and Rice

Nan-Hai EXPRESS
Chopsuey and Plain Rice

GOLDEN CANTONESE
Corn Soup, Fried Chicken, Miki Guisado and Rice

ICE CREAM
Nestlé
Nestea

Get these FREE
Nestlé Double Dutch Ice Cream
&
Nestea Collectible Movie Cups

SM FOODCOURT

Promo runs from February 01 to March 31, 2001

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2694, Series of 2000